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College and School News

Thomasina Talley, famous concert pianist, was presented in a recital at BENEDICT COLLEGE, Columbia, S. C., early in November. The recital, a highly successful beginning of the school's fall artist's series, was presented under the auspices of Gamma Nu Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Miss Talley, a native of Nashville, is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and has been widely acclaimed as a pianist of national repute. A product of Fisk University, Juillard School of Music and Columbia University, she has appeared as a soloist with the Columbia University and the Riverside Symphony orchestras of New York City and has been heard over the NBC and CBS networks.

James Abresch

Miss Thomasina Talley

The work of SHAW UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF RELIGION has been greatly expanded with the current session. Steps taken to strengthen the staff and program of the school were made public recently by Dr. Robert P. Daniel, president.

The curriculum has been broadened by introduction of work in speech training for ministerial students. The course is taught by Dean William R. Strassner of the School of Religion. The study of Hebrew also has been introduced this term and is taught by Rabbi Harold L. Gelfman of Raleigh. Addition of a course in Greek is being contemplated. Further expansion of the divinity school has come in the addition of a department of the rural church. Headed by the Rev. Moses Delaney, the department will seek to train young ministers especially for rural pastorates. Present enrollment in the School of Religion is the largest in several

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years.

Two graduates of Shaw, who recently completed training for missionary work in Haiti, left the country in October for the Negro Republic. The young women, Miss Ann Bowers, class of 1937 and Miss M. Kathleen Shaw, 1943, were honored at Vesper services at the University on the eve of their departure.

Lincoln University, Chester County, Pa., now in its 92d academic year, is the oldest institution for the higher education of Negro young men in the United States, and the only one north of the Mason and Dixon Line and east of Ohio. It includes a college of liberal arts and a theological seminary. Dr. Horace Mann Bond, noted Negro educator, writer and lecturer, recently assumed the Presidency of Lincoln University. He is the fifth President of the institution and the first alumnus chosen to this office. He was graduated in the class of 1923. Dr. Bond succeeds Dr. Walter Livingston Wright, who became president in February, 1936, and has now reached the retirement age. Dr. Wright, a graduate of Princeton University in 1892, first came to Lincoln in 1893 as professor of mathematics. He will continue to live on the campus. Dr. Bond has served successively as research assistant to the Julius Rosenwald Fund, dean of Dillard University, and since 1939 as president of Fort Valley State College.

Four hundred and eighteen students are enrolled at Morehouse College this year, an announcement from the office of the Registrar has revealed. Twenty-five of the enrollees at the College are veterans who are taking advantage of the G. I. Bill of Rights.

Benjamin E. Mays, president of Morehouse college is one of one hundred and ninety scholars who have shared in the preparation of the recently published Encyclopedia of Religion.

An enlarged faculty in the fine arts at Spelman College has greatly increased the opportunities now available in this department, according to President Florence M. Read. In painting and drawing, the faculty includes Hale Woodruff, who returned this year to his position after two years of freelance painting as a fellow of the Rosenwald Foundation; and Mrs. Margery Wheeler Brown. A new appointee in sculpture and ceramics is Miss Alice W. Dunbar of Kingstotn, New York, a graduate of the Boston Museum School of Fine arts in Massachusetts, where she won the Mrs. David Hunt Scholarship, and the Concour and Boit prizes.

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Vol. 52, No. 12 Whole Number 420

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The Crisis was founded in 1910 and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at 20 W. 40th St., New York 18, N. Y., by The Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15 cents a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1,75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscription may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while The Crisis *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.*

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NEXT MONTH

Articles to be carried in the January issue include "It's Only Make-Believe, a story of the Negro in Hollywood," by Phil Carter; "The Road to West Indian Federation," by Herman P. Osborne and "Defeat in Detroit, a discussion of the Detroit election on November 6," by Henry Lee Moon.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Dan Burley is managing editor of the New York *Amsterdam News.* Harold Preece, a Southern white writer for magazines and newspapers, has written several articles for the Crisis. He lives in Florida. Alfred Baker Lewis is a member of the NAACP board of directors and active in the Union for Democratic Action. Noma Jensen is a member of the staff of the NAACP. Beatrice Wright lives in Brooklyn, N. Y., and has contributed poetry to previous issues of this magazines. James W. Ivy, former editorial assistant of the Crisis, is managing editor of the magazine, *Common Sense.*

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NOTICE TO COLLEGES AND ADVERTISERS

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Dr. and Mrs. Barnett Frissell Smith, former Atlanta teachers have returned to Atlanta to take up posts at Spelman, according to an announcement from the office of President Florence M. Read. Mrs. Smith, the former Georgia Caldwell, of Kansas City, Mo., was a member of the mathematics department at Spelman from 1929 to 1938. Dr. Smith, who for a number of years was a teacher of general science and biology at the Booker T. Washington High School, joins the biology faculty at Spelman.

Eleven lecturers from seven leading American universities, one professional school, one cultural association and a public library will constitute the visiting faculty to present the course, Foundations of Social Science, at ATLANTA UNIVERSITY during the present academic year, President Rufus E. Clement has announced.

The following will be visiting lecturers: anthropology, Melville J. Herskovitz, chairman of the department of anthropology, Northwestern University; political science, Owen Lattimore, director of the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations, Johns Hopkins University; sociology and social work, E. C. Lindeman, professor of social philosophy, New York School of Social Work; folk history, L. D. Reddick, curator, Schomburg Collection, New York Public Library; rural sociology, T. Lynn Smith, chairman, department of sociology, Louisiana State University; language, Frank M. Snowden, professor of classics, Howard university; law, Arthur B. Spingarn, New York City; economics, Colston E. Warne, professor of economics, Amherst College; and the Caribbean, Eric Williams, associate professor of political science, Howard University.

The DELAWARE STATE COLLEGE closed its registration recently with an increase of 28.46% over the 1944-45 period. Dormitories are crowded and this year's freshman class is the largest in the history of the college, exceeding last year's first year class which up to that time had set the all-time high mark. Among the students are a number of veterans of World War II under the G. I. Bill of Rights and the Vocational Rehabilitation Act.

Courses are also being offered in social work under the direction of Dr. Mary Huff Diggs, Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Minnesota and Ph.D. from Bryn Mawr; and in Spanish under the guidance of Dr. Theodora Boyd, a Ph.D. from Radcliffe.

Only candidate for a degree in the graduate division during the recent summer quarter commencement exercises at TENNESSEE A. AND I. STATE COLLEGE was Mrs. Beulah Johnson Tipton (A.B., Spelman College, 1937) of East Chattanooga, who received the degree of master of science in education.

Democracy In OPA

Thirteen per cent of the Office of Price Administration's 3,723 employees in the national office, as of March 31, 1945, were Negroes, according to an analysis of a report on Negro employment released recently by Frances H. Williams, special assistant to Administrator Chester Bowles and Lois K. Thomas, administrative assistant.

These 493 Negroes were integrated into all levels and branches of the organization, the analysis shows, with sizeable percentages of them earning salaries ranging from $2,000 to $5,000.

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A standardized test, designed to measure general knowledge of the Negro and devised by Miss Mae Belle Pullins, head of the Testing Bureau at HAMPTON INSTITUTE, has just been published by the California Test Bureau. The test, which is unique in that it measures objective knowledge of the Negro rather than attitudes about him, is believed to be the first standardized test of its kind and may be used as an instrument for measuring achievement in courses taught by many colleges and universities in Negro literature, Negro history, sociology, and cultural areas of race relationships. It is also suitable for use by interracial committees, study clubs, and similar groups.

Yeoman Noah F. Ryder, on war leave from Hampston Institute where he was director of the choir from 1941 until his induction into the Navy in 1944, has been awarded the $500 grand prize in the War Board Navy Show contest for his sea chantey, "Haul Away, Mateys, We're Almost Home," based on a traditional Negro folk song. Over 1,000 men and women of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard submitted entries in the contest, with 52 prizes, totalling $2,975, being awarded in war bonds for outstanding literary and musical compositions.

Three graduates of Hampton Institute, nominated by the alumni in a written ballot were recently elected by the trustees to membership on the board. They are Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrell, '28, of the faculty of Howard University; Atty. Robert L. Brokenburr, '06, of Indianapolis, Inc., a member of the Indiana senate, and Saul M. Perdue, '33, principal of the Carver Memorial Vocations School in Baltimore.

The Board of Trustees of HOWARD UNIVERSITY, at its recent semi-annual meeting announced the following new appointments: Dr. W. Mercer Cook, professor of romance languages; Dr. Lloyd N. Ferguson, of the A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C., assistant professor of chemistry; Dr. J. F. E. Einaar, of the University of Leiden (Holland), visiting professor of anthropology, Dr. Virginia Woods Callahan, visiting professor of Classics; Dr. Anne M. Cook, professor of drama; Dr. Kurt Braun, University of Bresleau, visiting professor of economics; Dr. Aaron Di-

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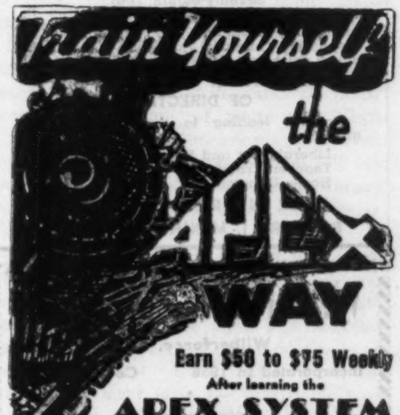

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rector, visiting professor of economics; Dr. Tage U. H. Ellinger, University of Copenhagen, professor of zoology; Dr. Geraldine P. Woods, instructor in zoology; Dr. Merze Tate, visiting professor of geography and geopolitics; Dr. Franz Rapp, University of Earlangen, professor of history and appreciation of trt; Mr. E. Horace Fitchett, assistant professor of sociology.

Dr. Percy H. Baker, at VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE, has been granted a leave of absence for the first semester to teach at Black Mountain College (white) in Black Mountain, N. C. Dr. Baker is teaching principles of biology and heredity.

Mrs. Christine J. Dillard, a business administration major at Virginia State won the National Tuberculosis Essay Contest among college students co-sponsored by the National Tuberculosis Association and the affiliated state associations.

Forty veterans have enrolled for courses through the "Veterans Opportunity" program conducted at LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.), an institution approved by the U. S. Veterans Administration for the education and training of discharged service men and women. While some few of these enrollees are former Lincoln students, the majority are new-comers to the campus, choosing their courses in the areas of graphic arts, printing, music, agriculture, and economic and business administration.

Mrs. Beulah Johnson-Tipton

J. J. Hedgemon, registrar of SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY announced the enrollment of 1,037 students in the regular session. Of this number, 400 freshmen comprise the largest class in Southern's history. J. B. Cade, dean, also announced the addition of four new departments to the university's educational structure: art, Mrs. Dolores H. Groves; physics, Dr. W. W. S. Clayter; foreign languages, Dr. Francis M. Hammond, and psychology, Dr. James A. Bayton. Two instructors have been granted leaves to study on General Education Board scholarships; L. J. Harrison, instructor in accounting, and F. A. Williams, instructor in agriculture.

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Editorials

Confusion for Christmas

WELL, we have peace (except in spots) for Christmas, 1945, but it is apparent on every side that our greatest Yuletide present is confusion.

Mr. Truman is going to keep the atomic bomb a secret. Eminent American scientists say Russia will develop an atomic bomb in five years. Mr. Atlee, Mr. Truman and Mr. King want a world commission to receive and control atomic information—but on condition that Soviet Russia tells its aspirations and foreign policy plans freely and frankly. America says it has no territorial ambitions, but we are keeping our Pacific bases and we see nothing wrong with holding our Marines in China at the call of the Nationalist government in its fight with the Chinese Communists, or in U. S. Lend-Lease guns being used against the Indonesians.

Mr. Bevin and Mr. Atlee both tell the world that Russia must stop "meddling" in Eastern Europe to avert mounting suspicion between the big powers, but England sees nothing wrong in (a) building a circle of friendly countries in Western Europe, (b) taking a hand in Greece, (c) pursuing its anti-Jewish policy in Palestine, (d) using its troops and guns to shoot down the Indonesians whose crime is that they want to be free of Dutch slavery.

There are other items like the kind of people we are supporting in Germany, and the dickering that seems to be proceeding in Japan. Our Congress and the remnants of the isolationists know that America cannot live in a starving, disease-ridden world, either morally or financially, yet under the Capitol dome we are wrangling over appropriating money to feed dying Europe.

We suffered a million casualties to defeat the master race theory in the East and the West, but we continue to follow the race superiority line at home and abroad, as our Congress strangles a bill which says simply that no man may be denied employment because of his race or religion, and fights inch by inch another bill which says the payment of a poll tax may not be a pre-requisite for voting. Politically the citizens of seven states are thus little better off than the Indonesians or the Nigerians.

But for the record the world has peace this Christmas. It does not have good will, but it does not have hand grenades, rockets, droning bombers and deadly fighters. And who said good will was the basis of peace?

Farewell and Hail!

WHILE American armies were fighting—according to declaration—for democracy in every country overseas, the American Theatre Wing with its internationally famous Stage Door Canteen in West 44th Street, New York City, was waging a silent, but inflexible and uncompromising battle for democracy at home.

The Stage Door Canteen started out by wiping out the color line. There were no ifs and buts and wherefores. When it opened it said all servicemen, regardless of nationality or color or section of America would be made welcome. It said the hostesses who entertained these men would be selected without regard to color, religion, race or nationality.

The policy never changed. Southern white boys from Georgia, Texas, Mississippi, and other corners of America came to the Stage Door Canteen and found themselves there with Negroes, Africans, Canadians, Indians, Australians, West Indians, British, Dutch, Norwegians, Haitians, Mexicans, Chinese, Japanese-Americans, and all variations of South Americans. The Southern whites found Negroes dancing with white hostesses. Some of them adjusted themselves to this world-shaking (to them) action, and some could not take it.

White girls were never forced to dance with Negroes. The Stage Door Canteen managers explained everything frankly to every girl who was interviewed for a hostess position. She was told that Negroes would be present and that many of them would want to dance. She was told that if she just could not bring herself to dance with a Negro, she must handle the situation with the utmost tact, and must consult with her supervisors.

This sensible and forthright handling of a situation usually botched up by white people had some surprising results. White girls—some of them from the Deep South—found themselves able to dance with Negro soldiers and sailors. They found that dancing with a man does not mean one would marry him, or that marriage is expected. The attractive colored girls who were hostesses report in many instances that the best acquaintances they formed were among the white boys from Dixie.

The Stage Door Canteen had its headaches on the color line. There were a few fights and a few hard words. There were times when the board of directors discussed compromise. But compromise never came. It closed its doors as it opened them—without selling-out democracy. We join countless servicemen all over the world in saying to the Stage Door Canteen: Farewell and Hail!

Not One Out of a Million

BRAVE white heroes in our armed services have been awarded the nation's highest decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honor, literally in batches by President Truman. The Crisis would not take one ounce of credit from these men whose citations suggest that the honor they have won, high as it is, is not adequate thanks for their sacrifices and heroism. Yet it does seem strange to Negro Americans that out of the nearly one million of their men in the armed services not one should have performed in such a manner as to be cited for the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Byrnes and the Balkans

OUR Secretary of State, the Hon. James F. Byrnes, is deeply concerned about "free democratic elections" in the Balkan countries. He has issued several statements on these elections and has made major speeches in which they received his attention.

Mr. Byrnes hails from South Carolina, a state which has not, up to this writing, been noted for its "free democratic elections." Scores of thousands of white and Negro citizens in South Carolina are prevented from voting through the devices of the poll tax, the so-called "white" Democratic primary, and through tricky and discriminatory registration laws.

We join the Norfolk *Journal and Guide* and others in demanding that Mr. Byrnes exhibit some concern for "free democratic elections" in his home state and in other states with similar restrictions on the exercise of the ballot. Until that is done, our State Department is in the unenviable position of a hypocrite in international affairs; a position, we imagine, which is fully appreciated by the Soviet government, at which Mr. Byrnes' speeches were directed.

Death for FEPC?

IT becomes apparent as this session of Congress draws to a close that it will take the greatest of pressure upon the White House, Congress, and the political party leaders if the bill for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission is acted upon.

The old wartime FEPC is being forced out of existence. It has cut staff to the bone, and is closing up most of its regional offices as of December 15. It is estimated that even this skeleton will disappear by March 15, if not sooner. In the meantime, even with supporting pronouncements from President Truman, the bill for a permanent FEPC has been bottled up in both the House and the Senate.

Both major parties should be held to strict accountability on this issue. Demands for passage should be made upon President Truman, Senator Alben W. Barkley, Democratic Chairman Robert Hannegan, and Republican Chairman Herbert E. Brownell. The latter two should be addressed at the Democratic and Republican National Committees, respectively, Washington, D. C. In addition, letters should be sent to senators and congressmen from the states and districts in which the voters and supporters of FEPC live.

What's Ahead For Robinson?

By Dan Burley

Branch Rickey of the Dodgers knew he would have to fight certain white owners and players on the signing of Jackie Robinson, but he is bewildered, says the writer, by the opposition from the Negro baseball world. Adding to the confusion is a group of white sports writers and other "viewers-with-alarm" who are trying to wreck the first real chance Negroes have had in organized baseball.

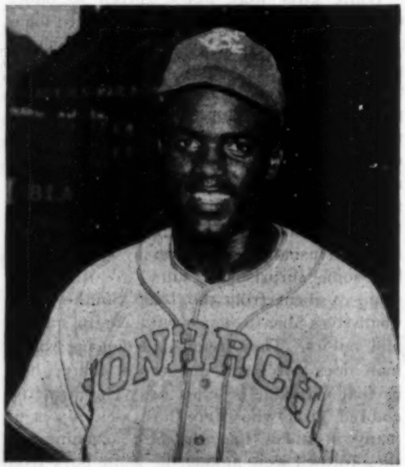
JUST when the sports public is settling back for the long winter wait until spring when it will see for the first time a "recognizable" Negro in action in organized white baseball, a situation, ugly and unseemly, has raised its head in the midst of things. As a result the tough, arduous campaign fought over the years to integrate Negro players into the national pastime, faces the prospect of being nullified.

The "recognizable" Negro who is due for action on a minor league baseball nine is Jack Roosevelt (Jackie) Robinson, smooth black, 26-year-old former all-around athlete at the University of California at Los Angeles. Robinson was signed on Oct. 29 by Barnch Rickey, Sr., president of the National League Brooklyn Dodgers Baseball Club, to a contract to play shortstop for the Montreal Royals, International League farm club of the world-famed "Bums" from Flatbush.

The "situation, ugly and unseemly," that has arisen, is one of the oddities of the human mental process in which the best thing is rejected in favor of the status quo. The action taken by Branch Rickey, Sr., in doing what he called "the right thing"—giving a Negro youth the chance to put his ability to an acid test—is being combatted by a well-integrated clique of ofganized baseball's reactionary whites in cahoots with disgruntled, fearful Negro club owners. The latter are afraid that the step taken by Rickey will inaugurate a wholesale "raiding" of their teams for star players in minor and major league tryouts or jobs, and that they will, in the process, be put out of business. The white reactionaries are led by Clark Griffith, aged president of the Washington American League Senators, and several others who been afraid so far to announce themselves as being publicly in opposition to Rickey's stand.

70-year-old Ban

For 70-odd years, organized baseball has adamantly refused to lower the color bar to admit Negro players. By secret "gentlemen's agreements" and "unwritten laws" Negroes have been forced to play outside the pale of organized baseball. The ban has been absolute except in certain rare occasions where Negroes have been "slipped" into major league ball clubs by what reactionaries call "unscrupulous managers" and allowed to play until detected. Of course, Cubans with Negro blood have played in the game and some are willing to bet that quite a few Negroes are on major and minor league rosters right now, although the "man" doesn't know it.



Courtesy of Amsterdam News

Jackie Robinson, the first Negro to be signed up by organized baseball.

The man credited with officially establishing a color bar in organized baseball was the late C. F. (Pop) Anson of the old Chicago White Stockings which later became the National League Cubs. It was Pop Anson's insistence, old-timers recall, that made the color line an ex-officio policy in organized baseball and not until Branch Rickey's action was the rule credited to Anson ever violated.

Unlike collegiate sports, football, baseball, track, and in some extreme cases, basketball, professional baseball is an American industry built on dollars and cents. Because warm weather is imperative for training and playing purposes, southern white boys have predominated the lineups of the various clubs in the major and minor league circuits. Like the Army and Navy, professional baseball has been a "career" proposition to outstanding sons of the lilywhite South and that accounts for much of the insistence on the color bar. While the two St. Louis clubs, the Cardinals in the National League, and the Browns in the American League, are the only members of the major circuits from Border States, the fact remains that southern dominance of baseball is as absolute as southern say-so over congressional and senatorial committee chairmanships. All these factors were in front of Branch Rickey when he made his momentous decision.

Promises of 'Tryouts'

The late Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis was goaded into a public statement by pressure of the Negro press and liberal organizations crusading for fair play in the nation's most popular sport. The High Commissioner of Baseball announced that "there is no agreement, gentlemen's, secret, or otherwise that bars Negro players from the major leagues." This was the first big "break" of the long campaign launched in the dim, bygone days of Rube Foster and Sol White. The next came in a deluge of promises of "tryouts" to prospective Negro candidates for big league play by such owners of clubs as Jay Benswanger of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and others, including the owners of the Philadelphia Nationals, the Cleveland Tigers and the Chicago Cubs. Nothing came of them, however. The names of prominent Negro players were advanced on all sides and included Josh Gibson, home run king of the Homestead Grays, his teammate, Dutch Leonard, first baseman and a home run slugger of note; Roy Campanello, catcher for the Baltimore Elite Giants; Sammy Hughes, second baseman of the Elites, and others, among them the aging Willie Wells, peerless shortstop who at the time, had "jumped" the Negro National League for Mexico; Leroy (Satchel) Paige, ancient moundsman, who even at his age is still considered the greatest pitcher in baseball, white or black. But nothing ever happened.

The campaign seemed on the way to a stalemate. Despite World War II and all the propaganda about race rights, equality, free-

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Since this article was placed in type, the owners of clubs in the Negro leagues have dropped all protests except that against taking their players without paying for them. They say they will not block their players from a chance in the majors, but they feel the big leagues should compensate them for the time and expense of training players.

Amsterdam News

Jackie Robinson and fiancee, attractive Rachel Isum, cross their fingers for luck as they discuss Jackie's plans for meeting the exigencies of the South when he begins winter training in Florida.

dom, opportunity, etc., baseball seemed almost certain to remain the last bulwark of white reaction against Negro participation.

Then came the actuality of Fair Employment Practice legislation. The wartime FEPC set up by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt was limited in scope, being concentrated on discrimination in war industries. The New York State Fair Employment Practice Act passed by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey was the stick that finally broke the camel's back. While Dewey probably had never given a thought to baseball and the effect a state FEPC would have on the color line in that sport, columnists, newspapermen and sports experts immediately found out that the rules of the state FEPC would most certainly affect the way professional baseball was run in New York State, at least. Since it was an avenue of employment and since it rigidly barred Negroes from its rosters, baseball was wide open for attack.

Rickey Pioneers

However, three years before the New York State Commission Against Discrimination was set up, Branch Rickey had been exploring the possibilities of using Negroes in organized baseball. It might be noted here that Branch Rickey is of the adamant type. Law or no law, he does what he thinks is right.

In contrast to the chicanery and double-talk of Larry S. MacPhail who was president of the Brooklyn Dodgers when the matter of lifting the color bar against Negroes was placed squarely in his lap by a committee of which the writer was a member, Rickey interested himself thoroughly in the matter. While MacPhail's files were choked with research data on Negro players, names, ages, records, affiliations, etc., plus scores, averages, and so forth, he did nothing about it beyond making some hazy statements about bringing up the matter at the winter league meeting of the baseball people. He went into the army shortly after and it is to be doubted that he ever introduced the matter to his associates.

Rickey, however, first of all, decided he wanted to give Negroes a chance and then he sent his scouts everywhere to find out who could make the grade. A deeply religious man with the fire of the crusader burning in his breast, this heavy-set, spectacle-wearing "John Brown" of baseball then fortified himself against the inevitable blasts he would get from his colleagues as well as the race-haters, fascists, and the worshippers at the cult of anti-everything but white. He selected the name of Jackie Robinson as the Negro he felt most likely to succeed if given a chance and then sent for the lad and signed him up. That was all there was to it. Rickey wishes that was all. But it isn't.

Negro Leaguers Protest

The Kansas City Monarchs Club with which Robinson was playing when Rickey gave him a contract, hollered out first, and loud. Co-owner Tom Baird, white, prematurely issued a statement in which he said the Kansas City club would fight to retain Robinson who, it was claimed, was under contract to the Monarchs. This story was spread throughout the nation's sport pages and others followed by certain owners of clubs in the Negro National League intimating that they would back Kansas City to the hilt.

However, Baird rescinded his original statement and announced in a telegram to the writer, "Sorry my interview with Associated Press relative to Jackie Robinson misquoted also misinterpreted. We would not do anything to hamper or impede the advancement of any Negro player nor would we do anything to keep any Negro player out of white major leagues. Branch Rickey never contacted us at any time about signing Jackie Robinson. We sent Jackie Robinson for tryout with Boston last April."

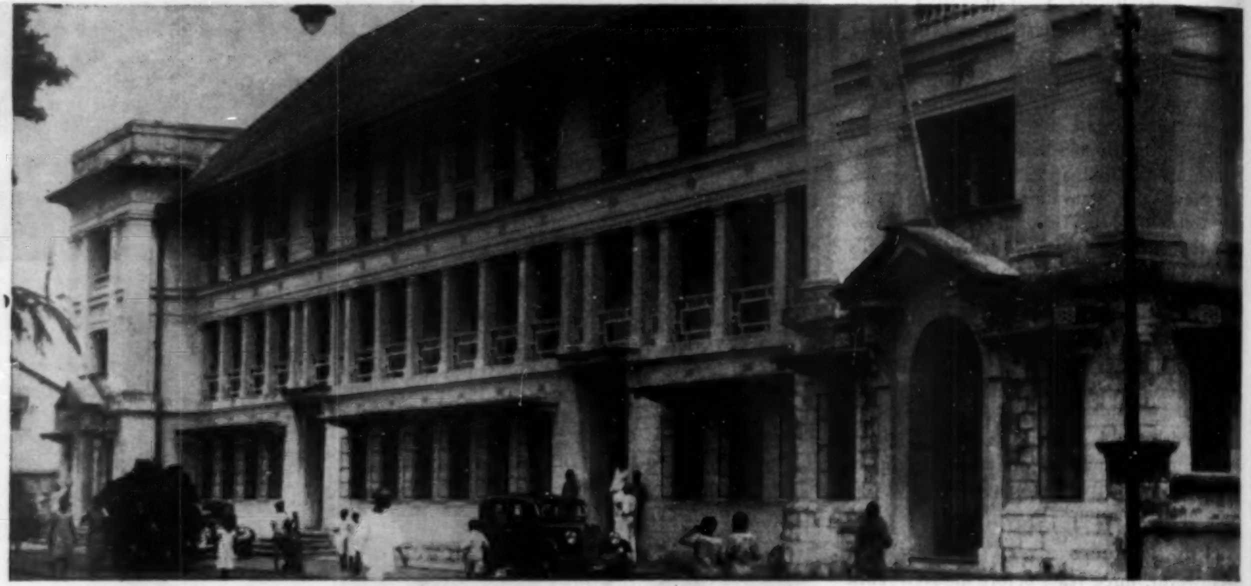
Then, one by one, club owners in both the Negro National and American League joined in roundly condemning Rickey for signing up Robinson who they insisted was the property of the Kansas City club. Rickey, fighting back, stated that the Negro Leagues themselves were "operating in the zone of a racket," and by implication, practically told them all to go to hell (although Mr. Rickey does not actually use such language). Rickey, however, was plainly hurt and bewildered. He told the writer that he expected to fight Clark Griffith, MacPhail and any of the major or minor league club owners and knew how to fight them. But he couldn't understand what to do about opposition of any kind from the members of a race he had gone far out of his way to recognize and help. He told me that the talk about breaking up Negro clubs by taking players was too silly to think about. "Major league clubs take players each season from the rosters of minor league teams," he said, "but are the minor league clubs broken up?"

Rickey had already had dealings with Negro baseball. Through W. A. (Gus) Greenlee, Pittsburgh promoter and sportsman and founder of the present Negro National League, Rickey came in contact with the persons yho are behind Negro baseball for the first time. Greenlee, refused re-entry into the NNL by his former asosciates for what he claimed were personal reasons, organized another circuit, the United States League, with franchises at Ebbets Field, Brooklyn; Wrigley Field, Chicago, and Forbes Field, Pittsburgh, as well as in other cities. Rickey came on in this setup, got interested in it, and favored it with his blessings.

'Tryouts' For Two

Meantime, Joe Bostic, former sports editor of the *People's Voice* in Harlem, had rounded up two players, Dave (Showboat) Thomas, first baseman for the New York Cubans of the NNL, and Terris MacDuffie, eccentric righthanded pitcher, and had taken them to

(Continued on page 364)



Three Lions Photo

A British government building on a street in Lagos, capital of Nigeria, one of Great Britain's four West African colonial experiments (Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Gold Coast and the Bamiba). Africa's first general strike of modern times had its beginning in Lagos.

Africa Awakes

By Harold Preece

Nigerian workers strike a blow for the beginning of the end of British imperialism, and set the pace for heightened relations between colonial trade unionists and the organized workers of America

ONE more prize jewel has slipped loose in His Majesty's crown—with His Majesty being unable this time to call in his favorite tinker, Winston Churchill, to set it in place again. That jewel is Nigeria, where civilization was a reality when it was still an unknown word to His Majesty's and Churchill's ancestors. The organized workers of Nigeria recently challenged that pseudo-civilization known as imperialism in a ten-weeks general strike and won the first battle of a major world struggle which can never be resolved until Africa becomes a continent of free nations instead of a sub-world of oppressed colonies.

This strike in Nigeria may mean as much to all of Africa as Bunker Hill means to all the nations of the Americas. For Nigeria is teaching Africa that the people have in their own hands a greater weapon than all the shiny planes and artillery of the white rulers. The weapon is simply intelligent mass action.

Britain's 'Model Colony'

Moreover, Britain's "model colony" has developed a powerful trade union movement which can be a core of progress for all Africa. Within the last two generations, this subject nation of 23,000,000 black people has also brought forth a capable, determined native intelligentsia which realizes that its future lies with the folk of the kraals and compounds rather than with the imported white "elite" sent out from London to bleed the country. During five years and a half of World War II, we had little news out of Africa except what the British censors chose to let us have. We knew from the NAACP and the Council on African Affairs that British authorities, in many colonies, had used the war emergency as an excuse to clamp down on the emerging labor and nationalist movements of the old mother continent. We suspected that an explosion was mounting under the lid which had been sealed with Mr. Churchill's optimistic statement that he had "not been called upon to preside over the liquidation of His Majesty's Empire." If many of us were surprised that Nigeria blew the lid before the war ended, it is a sign that we underestimated the uncompromising new forces which are coming to maturity throughout those whole tense areas of the colonial countries.

On July 7, one month before the surrender of Japan, the news was flashed from Lagos, capital of Nigeria, that 200,000 workers, members of the country's trade unions had called an all-out strike and tied up all transportation as well as all governmental services. It was the first general strike in Africa since the Hebrews under Moses staged a mass stoppage preparatory to a mass walkout from Egypt. By the time that the British cenosrs had reluctantly passed the news of the Nigerian strike to the outside world, the struggle was already in its second week with the British authorities threatening to use military force but afraid that all Africa would be touched off if they backed up words with guns.

Increases Refused

Black railroad workers—skilled employees who had mastered the white man's techniques and the white man's books—had joined with black workers from the engineering workshops to begin the strike, after the acting governor flatly refused to grant a fifty per cent increase in wages to a united front trade union committee deeply concerned with war time increases in living costs. The increases which the unions had been asking since 1941 would have brought irregular and unskilled workers up to a minimum of 50 cents per day, skilled workers to a minimum of 65 cents.

To Americans, those sums seem modest to the point of being pitiful. That the requested raises were reasonable enough is shown by one comparison. Britishers, working for their government in Nigeria, had received repeated raises and subsidies to help them keep up with the ever-increasing prices of necessities as well as the luxuries which Britishers demand in London or in Lagos. The Nigerian colonial government, however, had written union officials representing the colored population on June 11 that: "An increase in money wages will not secure any betterment in the conditions of living unless plentiful supplies of foods and goods are available—agricultural production cannot be expected to show immediate improvement and existing conditions are likely to continue for some time."

The foundations of the British empire shake, in war or in peace, if a black bondsman of that empire asks for an extra nickel. But union officials recognized the grim fact that millions of Nigerians would be dead or permanently weakened from starvation if "existing conditions" were to "continue" for any time. They answered that letter not with polite correspondence, but with action. They told the workers to come out of the shops and offices and into the streets.

Workers Walk Out

In a day's time, postal and telegraph workers, electricians and helpers, seamen and nurses, lawyers and laborers—all of them on the government payroll—had walked out with the railroaders. Before three days had passed, it was impossible to ride a bus or a train, to send a letter or telegram, in all of the 42,000 square miles of Nigeria. House servants, employed by the British gentility, failed in many cases to show up to work, leaving the gentlemen and their wives to empty their own slops and brew their own tea.

Tribal organizations refused to furnish "blacklegs" or scabs to take the jobs of the strikers so that Britain was unable to employ imperialism's prize trick of using farming folk against wage workers. Only seventeen out of some eighty labor organizations affiliated with the All-Nigerian Trade Union Congress were involved in the strike. But all other affiliates gave sympathetic and loyal support to that vanguard of 200,000 which was fighting the battle of a continent while it was fighting the battle of labor.

When the Nigerian workers began taking stock of their rulers, they also began to evaluate their own union leaders: Uncle Toms are on their way out in Africa as they are on their way out in America. Dr. T. A. Bankole, president of the Congress and a Nigerian version of the AFL's saintly William Green, was deposed because he sided with British Governor Sir Arthur Richards and urged the strikers to return to work with their demands still pending. He was succeeded by one of Africa's great native leaders, a man who is destined to become a world figure as Africa takes a commanding position in rebuilding the world, A. O. Imoude, president of the Railway Workers Union, who had been released a few weeks earlier from "protective custody" under what Churchill's now-fallen government called "defense of the realm regulations."

British Combine

While his fellow Nigerians were fighting British economic imperialism on the home front, this soldier from Nigeria was getting himself wounded in fighting in Burma and the Middle East. This veteran of the Burma campaign, shown walking away from the hospital ship on crutches, typifies African soldiers who fought overseas during World War II for the first time in the history of the four British West African colonies. West Africans proved to be among the world's finest jungle fighters and distinguished themselves in many campaigns.

Native Leaders Rise

All Lagos had turned out to meet Imoude when he returned home from prison on June 2. He had been placed on a white horse and had then ridden in triumph through cheering crowds to Glover Memorial Hall. Nigeria's leading native citizens had gathered at the hall to wine and dine him. However, Imoude was thinking more of the crowds in the street, the people who depended upon his courage and foresight now that the war was ending with the great imperialist powers taking no steps to fulfill any of the promises that had been made to the captive peoples. He had little time to rest after his return: the people had given him too much work for the hectic days which lay ahead.

Another commanding figure to arise from the struggle is Nnamdi Azikiwe, sometimes called "The Black Hearst of West Africa" because he owns a whole chain of newspapers in that part of the continent. Azikiwe, however, does not appreciate the nickname because he is the exact opposite of the reactionary American publisher in temperament and in policy. He was educated at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and later lectured in social science there. It might have been to his personal interests to have supported the empire and not the strikers. But Azikiwe is carved in the stature of Africa and not in the stature of Churchill.

At the outset of the strike, Azikiwe threw the full support of his two Nigerian papers, the *West African Pilot* and the *Daily Comet,* behind the strikers. He lashed out, in the biting language of a man who knows the future of his country, lies with his country's people against labor leaders who were fainthearted about the strike. When Governor Richards' censors clamped down on him, he left the editorial columns of his papers blank in protest. Finally, the two papers were banned and threats were made to deport the courageous editor from Nigeria. Those threats fizzled into thin air when the NAACP in New York took up the fight for a free press in Africa.

Governor Richards had been sent to Nigeria, so it is said, because he had suppressed the 1938 Jamaica strikes while governing that largest island of the West Indies. What worked with black men in one part of the world, he reasoned in the typically stupid fashion of the average British colonial ruler, should work with black men in any other part of the world. He blustered in from London, where he had been conferring with the Ministry of Colonies, and decreed that the strikers should receive no wages for June. All of their civil service benefits—including pensions—he decreed were to be wiped out unless they stopped insulting the King by their outrageous conduct and returned to work as good Negroes should. Then the Governor invoked war time defense legislation which was obviously unenforceable because Nigeria didn't have jails to hold 200,000 men.

Workers Demonstrate

The King's police routed then suspected leaders of the strike out of bed on Sunday at midnight and accused them of violating the defense regulations. Charges were later withdrawn against one man, but the other nine faced the pleasant prospect of spending the rest of their lives in one of the King's concentration camps.

The answer of the workers was as swift

British Combine

Nigerian miners are shown at work here in the production of columbite, a mineral used in the production of special steels for aircraft construction. "Tributors" or miners are shown carrying the mineral concentrate from the mines in head-pans. The African general strike set higher standards for these workers as well as the many others who engaged in or lent tacit support to the mass work stoppage.

as the awakening of Africa. Thousands of them gathered in a demonstration which packed the streets of Lagos to swear allegiance, in ancient tribal ceremonies, to Mother Africa and to pledge support to the nine who had been locked behind the bars. They voted, without one dissenting voice, not to return to work until wages were raised and until some new demands were granted. These demands were full pay for strikers during the entire period of the struggle, governmental guarantee of pensions and other benefits, and no penalizing of strikers.

The flower of the King's police and the King's native troops looked on helplessly as a tortured continent showed its ability to fight back. Imperialism was being weighed in the balance there at that never-to-be forgotten demonstration in that West African city, from which slaves were once shipped to New Orleans and Havana. And imperialism was watching the irrevocable handwriting on the wall, traced in the strong, elemental language of strong, elemental people.

Unquestionably, the coming to power of the Labor Party government in England, during the progress of the strike, helped the Nigerians win their battle which closed the last week in August, with spluttering old Governor Richards granting all demands and half a million people celebrating in the streets. New Prime Minister R. Clement Attlee was on a spot hotter than any place in Nigeria. For the platforms of the Labor Party endorse trade union organization in the colonies. Meanwhile, an ex-coal miner, George Henry Hall, and an ex-railway clerk, Arthur Creech Jones had succeeded Churchill's two colonial secretaries—the Duke of Devonshire and the Duke's brother-in-law, Oliver Stanley, the latter who is said to have opposed home rule for the British West Indies because he owns large landholdings in the islands.

But in view of the British Labor government's continued failure to reverse Churchill's smelly policies in Greece and Bulgaria, one should not fall into the short-sighted view of thinking that the new London government would have acted decently in Nigeria without strong world pressure.

Statesmen Lead Strike

The men who led the Nigerian strike are statesmen who know that no subject people can win freedom by itself. Their trade unions are affiliated with the new World Congress of Trade Unions, representing 60,000,000 workers in both owning and owned countries. It was to the organized workers of other nations, to liberal organizations like the Pan African Federation in London, and the NAACP and Council on African Affairs in America that they turned for help.

And it is a deep omen for the future, an undeniable sign that the world is changing its opinions about Africa, that the people of Nigeria received universal support. Protests, demanding that Governor Richards act in accordance with the principles of the United Nations charter, were sent from the United States, Britain, and the West Indies. It is said that the Governor's desk was swamped with indignant letters and cablegrams insisting that he meet the reasonable requests of the strikers.

Meanwhile, new ties have been forged between Africa and between America, which once enslaved Africans, in the heat of this battle. The Nigerian workers lost all faith in the old guard British trade union leaders when Laborite Sir Walter Citrine disdained their appeal for help, and urged them to go back to work while the issues of life and death for them were ironed out in polite British style. But a different kind of message,

(*Continued on Page* 363)

Federal Aid To Education

By Alfred Baker Lewis

EDUCATION in the United States traditionally has been the function solely of state and local governments. The federal government has had no part in it. But the same thing was true of relief for the unemployed and aged. This too was a matter for the states, towns, and counties to handle under state supervision. In that respect our constitutional theory and actual practice have completely changed. The responsibility for relief of the unemployed and aged was acknowledged to be a federal function under Mr. Roosevelt's Administration, although the actual handling of unemployment insurance has been left to the laws of the separate states in a great measure. There is reason now to believe that the federal government will swing its financial power, similarly, to support education.

Certainly the facts concerning inequality of educational opportunities open to people in different states are startling. One reasonable test of educational opportunities is the current expenditures for schools per pupil enrolled. It is not exactly accurate, for states where educational expenditures per pupil are low are apt to have a good many pupils not at school at all in the years from 5 to 17,

> ***"The fact is undeniable that poor schooling anywhere in the United States tends to spread its harmful influence into the whole economic and political life of the nation." Facts and figures given in this pertinent article show a startling disparity between educational opportunities in the 48 states, and point out wherein poor education for Negroes and, even, whites in Mississippi or Georgia casts its baneful shadow over education for Negroes and whites in New York or California.***

either because they did not go on to high school or even finish grade school or, in some rural areas, because there just were not schools open in their district because of the lack of teachers. The educational expenditure per pupil ranges from $135 in New York to $24 in Mississippi. Five states, New York, New Jersey, California, Nevada, and Montana spent more than $100 per pupil and five states, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi spent less than $35 per pupil.

Variations in Enrollment

The number of pupils aged 14 to 17 enrolled in high schools varied greatly. Ten states have over four fifths of such children in high school, namely Wyoming where 94 out of 100 children in that age group are in high school, Utah, Washington, Nevada, Oregon, New York, California, Kansas, and Nebraska. On the other hand one state, Mississippi, has less than two fifths of the students of appropriate age in high school, and seven other states have one half or less, namely Kentucky, Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, Montana, South Carolina, Georgia, and Louisiana.

The war has made the situation worse by causing an exodus of teachers to war work over and above the expected demands of the draft upon male teachers, for the simple but effective reason that the salaries of teachers are far too low and have not advanced in proportion to the advances achieved in take home pay by the employees in most war in-

British Combine Photo

Poor educational opportunities in segregated schools of southern states indirectly affect the boys and girls shown here pledging allegiance, who attend "mixed" and relatively progressive schools in the Pacific Coast city of San Francisco dustries. In no less than 28 of the 48 states the average pay of all instructional personnel, including principals and supervisors, was under $1300 a year, which means less than $25 a week. In Mississippi the average was $517 a year and in eleven states the average was less than $1000 a year. Naturally the loss to defense industries as a result is serious, and schools must either close down or the classes must be so increased in size that the quality of instruction available for the pupils is seriously impaired despite the best effort and training on the part of the available teachers.

Industry Attracts Teachers

The movement of teachers to war industries tends to be greatest in proportion in the states where teachers' salaries are already lowest and educational facilities in general the least adequate. Hence the decline in educational opportunities due to the war has increased the spread between the educational opportunities offered in states where such advantages were already the worst and those where educational standards were relatively the highest. This disparity in educational opportunity between different states is exaggerated and complicated by lack of decent educational opportunities for Negroes. Negroes are concentrated in the Southern states where educational facilities even for whites are below the national average, and they suffer from a further substantial differential in educational opportunities open to them. For example, the average expenditure for white children and for Negro children in eight Southern states ranges from 71 cents out of each dollar spent for white pupils in Maryland to 20 cents in Georgia and South Carolina.

This compares with a national average expenditure of approximately $80 per pupil. Both white and Negro children in such states are under-privileged educationally, but the Negro children far more so.

These facts about inequality of educational opportunity cast their baneful influence far outside the communities directly affected, for people move around freely in the United States. Some states have a very high proportion of their population born and educated in other states. This internal migration has been increased considerably by the war due to the concentration of war industries in certain localities. Therefore, poor education in many localities inevitably affects adversely the average education and intelligent voting of citizens all over the United States.

Race Relations Affected

This situation harmfully influences race relations and increases race prejudice. Negroes born in the South tend to migrate North when they see a good opportunity, partly to seek better pay and even more to get better education for their children. But they cannot help bringing with them the educational deficiencies which are the necessary result of discrimination against Negroes in the field of educational opportunities in most Southern states. These educational deficiencies help to fix in the minds of unintelligent white persons even in the North a picture of Negroes as uncouth and unlettered and even incapable of receiving a good education. This in turn, circumvents those Negroes born in the North and West where there is little if any educational discrimination and where Negroes have contributed largely to the ranks of doctors, teachers, lawyers, judges, and the learned professions generally.

National and international affairs are increasingly important in the lives and livelihood of all of us. What Washington does is of far more concern and affects far more intimately the life of each one of us than ever before. This fact is largely an inevitable and natural political result of increasingly rapid transportation and communication which have tied the country together in economic inter-dependence. Consequently men elected to Congress and the Senate by voters in any state or group of states where there is a poor average of education and information, by their action affect substantially and probably harmfully the happiness and welfare of those who live in places where the educational standards are higher.

Illiteracy Rejections

The way this inter-dependence affects us is illustrated by the figures for rejections in the draft because of educational deficiencies. (The Army considered that a 4th grade education was sufficient, and rejected men merely for lack of a 4th grade education.) In some states the rejections for educational deficiencies are negligible. In other states the rejections on educational grounds are very high. For example, in Mississippi and Georgia more than 10% of all draftees were rejected for lack of adequate education. In Tennessee and Texas about 9% were so rejected, in Alabama over 8%, and in Florida, Louisiana, North Carolina, and South Carolina, 6% or over failed to meet the minimum educational requirements. In some states on the other hand there were no such rejections, and in New York only three out of every 10,000 were rejected for lack of schooling. Needless to say, a heavier burden of military service is thus laid on the shoulders of the better educated states to meet the deficiencies in filling their draft quotas by the states where the lack of education raised the rejection rate.

Unfortunately, in the states where most Negroes live the proportion of rejections among Negroes for lack of a minimum education is substantially higher than the rejection rate among whites. In Georgia for example one out of four Negroes were rejected on educational grounds, while the white rejection rate was only 45 per thousand. In Mississippi the Negro rate was 150 per thousand and the white rate 18 per thousand. This was not true of Tennessee where rejections for educational reasons were twice as high among whites as among Negroes, reflecting the shockingly inadequate educational facilities in the Appalachian Mountain regions where whites greatly predominate; but the markedly higher rejection rate for Negroes was true of all the other states of the deep South. Proportionately more Negroes than whites avoided being drafted into the army so that the white man paid in blood for prejudices which cause him to discriminate in providing educational facilities for his Negro fellow citizen.

The reason for the wide differences in educational opportunities is not hard to understand. In the case of Negroes, of course, it is due to discrimination against them, as the figures on educational expenditures per child already given make quite plain. This discrimination in turn is the result largely of discrimination against Negroes in their right to vote. Consequently legislators, county commissioners, school board members, and others who voted consistently against decent educational facilities for Negroes did not have to fear any possible reprisals at the polls by angered Negro parents.

Equality Not in Sight

It may well be that this discrimination in voting rights will be given a death blow by the recent Supreme Court decision outlawing the Democratic White Primary. But even if that decision is enforced and not flouted it will take a generation before its effect will be felt fully in more nearly equal educational opportunities.

Even more basic a reason for the disparity in educational opportunities, and one that affects a larger number of persons is the wide difference between states in the total income of their inhabitants per child of school age and in their tax paying capacity.

Probably the total income in the state per child of school age is one of the best measures of tax paying capacity. It varies widely. Thirteen states have incomes of over $3,000 per child and thirteen states at the other end have incomes of less than $1,500 per child. Five states actually had incomes of over $4,000 per child and four states had incomes of less than $1,000 per child. Nevada had an income of $5,130 per child and Mississippi had an income of only $698. Generally speaking the low income states have the heaviest educational responsibility and provide the least adequate school opportunities. That is not because they neglect their children in most cases; they simply do not have the financial strength to do much more. "The kids are where the cash ain't," as one homespun sociologist put it.

In tax paying capacity* there is again a vast difference. Five states have a relative

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* The National Educational Association has computed a relative tax paying ability per capita of population on the basis of the estimated yield at uniform rates of six types of taxes, personal income tax, real estate tax, business income tax, stock transfer tax, severance tax, and corporation organization tax. (The gasoline tax was omitted as most states use it only for highways, not for general purposes.)

Intolerance on the Juvenile Level

By Noma Jensen

What factors were behind the recent school strikes in Gary, Chicago and New York? The subversive efforts of organized hate groups says the author of this timely piece.

A BIG question comes into the minds of adults who have been in close contact with children, when they read about white students striking because of the presence of Negroes in their schools. An untold number of experiments have proven that children do not have prejudices, but acquire them from adults. Keeping this in mind, one is able to look objectively upon recent school strikes in Gary, Chicago and New York, and analyze them for what they are.

In all three instances the strikes broke out in areas where there is a heavy concentration of foreign-born — Italian, Hungarian, Polish, Spanish persons and members of similar "melting pot" groups. All constitute a group that is largely economically insecure. They provide a fertile field for Fascist-minded Americans, bent upon dividing, and thereby ruling, the masses of Americans.

The Froebel school strike in Gary presents an excellent example of how members of subversive organizations can and are using our children to foment strife between racial and religious groups. One man, who appeared on the platform with the strikers, coaching the student spokesman, was a known member of a prominent subversive organization before the United States declared war in 1941. This man is alleged to have been seen at public meetings of the hate group in Gary. It is also well known that about two years ago he tried to divide the school by forming a white Parent-Teacher group in opposition to the "mixed" PTA.

Nazi Helps Out

Shortly after the conclusion of the strike, two of the strikers were seen in a printing establishment owned by a man who was exposed by Louis Adamic, the well-known author, as a Nazi, at a public meeting in Gary in 1940. This printer, who has no apparent official connection with the public school system, knew the school set-up so well that he was able to draw a map showing the location of each school and another designating the schools as either Negro, white or "mixed."

When one of the strikers was told by an interested observer, "It looks as if the strike will be over soon," the boy remarked, "Now we can throw away our Nazi flags." Upon investigation it was found that six of the strike leaders were "D" average students and considered "bad actors" by the teaching personnel. One of the strike leaders, a member of a "zoot suit" clique, had been in the Froebel school area only three weeks before the strike broke out.

Many Negro students at Froebel when questioned said that the strike came as "a complete surprise" to them. They had always thought of the strike leader as a "good guy." Negroes and white youth had been attending Froebel school for 20 years without friction up to the time of the strike.

The concensus of people when questioned about the school strike in Gary is that it is not over. As one person remarked, "Neither side won, and we are going into the ominous phase now as the opposition goes underground."

Clashes in Chicago

The school strikes in Chicago are undoubtedly the result of mounting group antagonisms. These antagonisms can be traced to the community's failure to alleviate over-crowdedness in housing, discrimination in employment and in the lack of success in various civic groups to reform the city's school system.

At Englewood high school where the strike broke out in Chicago, the racial composition has shifted so that the whites are now in the minority. Minor clashes of an interracial nature have occurred here during the past several years. Instead of meeting the problem with a realistic intercultural studies and activity program the school authorities asked for additional policemen in the Englewood area.

One cannot look at the school strike situation honestly without being cognizant of the role that housing plays in this picture. In Chicago recently there has been considerable agitation for increased residential segregation. This has taken overt action in the restrictive covenant campaign. The idea of "Negro areas" and "white areas" in housing has been

Acme

Intergroup activity and cooperation such as is being carried out between these Negro and white children of Philadelphia, shown working on a poster project, makes for better understanding among minority groups. Realistic intercultural studies and activities programs in the schools would make it unnecessary to request policemen to patrol schools in tension areas.

transferred to the public schools, so that we hear increased talk of "white schools" and "Negro schools" on the part of white adults in Chicago. Another cause for intergroup tensions has been the subversive, but freely circulated, rumors of the "Eleanor clubs" and "push days."

Last summer a "sex crime wave" broke out in Chicago. This was given much publicity by the daily press, which in no subtle manner brought the racial angle into prominence. Those who had watched this build-up by the daily press were not surprised when they learned that one of the school strikes was preceded by a rumor that one of the white girl students had been raped by two Negro students.

Laxity in New York

In New York, there was no evidence of direct stimulation by organized hate groups. Nevertheless, a thorough investigation might reveal such un-American activity as was uncovered in Gary. Moreover, the strike fits into a similar pattern as relates to organized hoodlumism. The boys who swarmed around Benjamin Franklin school during the disturbance were street loafers and members of all-white gangs from various parts of the city. As one observer noted, "They looked as if they were itching for some excitement."

Many parents fearing for the safety of their children appeared on the scene ready to protect them. Here again was an under-privileged non-English speaking group, very insecure and ready to fight at the least provocation.

Benjamin Franklin High School is widely respected in New York for its excellent program of intercultural education. Dr. Leonard Cavello, the principal, has been tireless in his efforts to bring about real harmony and goodwill in his school. However, the Board of Education in the city of New York has not given Dr. Cavello the financial support nor the required personnel for him to do the job which he knows needs to be done. The community has been lax here, also, in checking race hate groups which find fertile ground in such areas.

Negroes see in these school strikes a very definite attempt to take away the small gains which they have made toward achieving first class citizenship. On the other hand, many white persons realize that "mixed" schools are the beginning of the end of the segregated pattern. The school strikes in Gary, Chicago and New York should be ample proof that the latter will use any methods—even Nazi methods—to stem the tide.

Built Ledo Road

Negro troops formed 65 percent of the more than 15,000 soldiers in the construction forces of the Ledo Road from India to China, the War Department has announced.

Acme

These Philadelphia youngsters approach the business of improved interracial understanding through the simple matter of learning to get along together at play. Youngsters at the North Light Boys' club playground choose up for sides prior to a game of sand lot baseball. For better understanding among minority groups, Joseph Blum of Roman Catholic high school, gets set to catch the bat held by James White, the Negro lad, of Joel Cook high.

MYOPIA

The man from Mars could easily see
The glaring incongruity
Of poor earth-man.

He sets up levels by a race,
Or by the color of a face.
A doubtful plan.

He seeks improvement day by day
But thinks that darker man should stay
Quite primitive.

Superior white must always be!
Such undefended dignity;
Quite sensitive.

He shares his culture high or low
But thinks the shareholder should know
A little less.

So lost in forests of wishful thinking
Are trees of merit; with honor sinking
In deep distress.

By **Beatrice Wright**

Along the N. A. A. C. P. Battlefront

LUNCEFORD A LIFE MEMBER—*Jimmy Lunceford, famous band leader, is shown here presenting a check for life membership in the NAACP to Mrs. Virginia Kiah, former membership secretary of the Baltimore branch. Others in the photo are, extreme left Addison V. Pinkney, executive secretary of the branch, and extreme right, LeRoy Carter, assistant field secretary of the national office.*

Truman Asked to End Prison Jim Crow: In a recent letter which describes conditions in Federal prisons as "shocking," the NAACP urged President Harry S. Truman to issue a directive "forthwith to the Bureau of Prisons to be transmitted to the wardens in all Federal prisons directing them to discontinue all rules, regulations and policies with respect to all prison activity and endeavor based upon race."

Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP requested immediate action by the President, asserting that for three years the NAACP has been active in investigating and protesting discrimination and segregation in Federal prisons and that the matter had been brought repeatedly to the attention of James V. Bennett, Director of Prisons. "All of our efforts to obtain a directive from the Bureau of Prisons to abolish segregation during these years have been unsuccessful," he stated in the letter.

NAACP action was taken following severe disciplinary measures used against persons in the Ashland Federal Prison, who protested against dining hall segregation of Negroes and whites.

Oklahomans to File Education Suit: By immediate court action, educational equality for 200,000 Oklahoma Negroes will be sought, according to a program of legal action adopted by the annual state convention of the NAACP at McAlester. If successful, the suit will open the state's institutions of higher learning to the Negro.

The move will involve an attempt to enroll in the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma A. & A. College Negro students who want courses on graduate and professional levels not offered by the state at Langston university. The plan of attack will be similar to that used in Missouri in the now celebrated Lloyd Gaines case.

Thurgood Marshall, chief counsel of the NAACP from New York, who addressed the Oklahoma conference said the proposed suit will be "the easiest case to beat that ever entered the courts of Oklahoma."

Probe of Florida KKK Sought: A request that Tom C. Clark, United States Attorney General, institute an immediate investigation of the burning of five fiery crosses near Negro homes in a subdivision of Miami, Florida, early last month, was made by Thurgood Marshall, chief counsel of the NAACP.

"This method of intimidation by the recently rejuvenated Klu Klux Klan and kindred organizations most certainly deserves the immediate attention of the Department of Justice," Marshall wrote. "This is especially true in the light of the recent lynchings in Florida."

Marshall also wired Governor Millard F. Caldwell of Florida urging an investigation of the incident by the Governor's office.

Asks Clemency for GI'S Given 12 and 50 Years: A petition for clemency has been filed by the NAACP on behalf of Purdie S. Jackson, enlisted man who was convicted by general court martial in Nashville, Tennessee, and sentenced to a dishonorable discharge and confinement for 12 years for assaulting three white civilians with criminal intent, and Capt. Leroy A. Clay, formerly a captain in the 92nd Infantry Division, convicted of disobedience of orders while overseas and sentenced to dishonorable discharge and 50 years confinement at hard labor.

The charges involving Jackson grew out of an altercation which occurred in the drug store owned by one of the civilians because the Negro soldier sat in a section reserved for the use of white patrons. It was pointed out in the petition that no wrong-doing on Jackson's part was established at the trial; that the white men were actually the aggressors; that Jackson was acting in self-defense; that although the wounds which petitioner Jackson allegedly inflicted were reported serious, no medical authority was called to testify who had attended same; and that dishonorable discharge and 12 years confinement were highly disproportionate to the offenses proved.

Clay, sentenced to 50 years confinement, later had his sentence reduced. Nevertheless, the Association pointed out in the petition that the record of the trial discloses a deliberate intent on the part of the authoritties of the 92nd Division to discredit Clay and ruin his military career by assigning him to duty for which he had no training and no background; further since this assignment was intended as a form of punishment, it was illegal and therefore could not be the basis of a trial by court-martial.

NAACP attorneys in the filing of both petitions are Thurgood Marshall and his assistant Robert L. Carter.

Non-Segregation Promised by Vets' Surgeon General: Following a conference with representatives of the National Negro Publishers' Association, the NAACP and leading figures of the National Medical Association, General Paul H. Hawley, Assistant Surgeon General and Chief of Staff of the hospital division of the Veterans' Administration, promised that he would personally visit "non-segregated institutions of the Veterans' Administration and proceed as rapidly as circumstances permitted to integrate Negroes into these institutions."

Among other topics discussed in the one-hour conference was the appointment of guardians for incompetent Negro veterans.

Protests Segregation in Naval Center: A protest has been lodged with the Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal by the NAACP for segregation of visitors to the Naval Training Center at Bainbridge, Maryland.

The NAACP letter relates that colored visitors are forced to use a jim-crow bus, must meet their relatives in uniform in a separate hall set aside for Negroes only, and are not permitted to leave the hall during the visit, whereas white sailors and their friends have the freedom of the grounds.

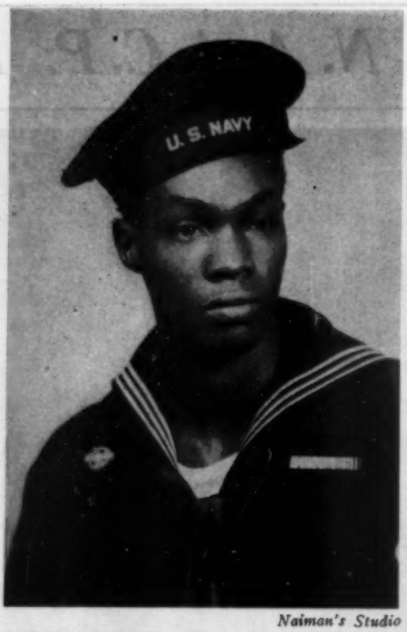
Freedom Sought for Ft. Lawton Men: The NAACP has filed a petition for clemency with the Secretary of War on behalf of 27 Negro soldiers convicted of rioting at Fort Lawton, Washington, against Italian prisoners-of-war. The sentences imposed ranged from one to 15 years confinement at hard labor.

In addition to detailing the prejudicial errors committed at the trial, it was pointed out that although clashes between American soldiers and Italian prisoners-of-war occurred a number of times prior to the riot, Fort Lawton authorities had taken no steps to guard against future occurrences and by their lax policies made the riot of August 14, 1944, inevitable.

Civilian Review of Military Courts: The proposal of Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon for a civilian investigation of military courts-martial received the immediate endorsement of the NAACP which declared that there is "very considerable feeling among Negro soldiers about the manner in which they were treated in courts-martial."

A telegram sent to Senator Morse said: "National Association for the Advancement of Colored People heartily endorses and supports your proposal for civilian investigation of military courts-martial. Scores of complaints to this office substantiate your belief that military courts-martial have been guilty of the grossest types of miscarriage of justice."

Launch Attack on Vets' Problems: A nation-wide attack on the problems of Negro veterans was launched in November at a conference called in Washington by the Veterans' Bureau of the NAACP, headed by Capt. Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr. Delegates attending the conference heard discussions on employment, education, loans, health and legal aid and legislation.



Naiman's Studio

FOUGHT SEGREGATION—*James S. Wright, former Navy electrician, figured in the breaking down of the color bar at the Anacostia Naval Receiving Station. (See "Story of the Month.")*

The Veterans' Bureau of the NAACP was set up last January 1, in the office of the Association's Washington Bureau at 100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Capt. Dedmon, who served in World War II with the 366th Infantry, began his duties when the bureau was set up.

Pan-African Congress Meets: Two hundred delegates attended the Pan-African Congress which met in October at Manchester, England and drafted a number of reforms, demanding, among other things, the franchise for all men and women at twenty-one; compulsory, free and uniform education up to sixteen; inviolability of person, house and privacy; freedom of speech, movement and occupation; and revision of the civil and criminal code in accordance with these reforms.

Dr. W. E. Burghardt DuBois, representing the NAACP, was appointed permanent chairman of the Congress.

Lunceford Becomes Life Member: Jimmie Lunceford, famous orchestra leader, became a life member of the NAACP when he gave a check for $500 to the Baltimore branch during a recent membership campaign. Lunceford made a formal presentation of his check to Addison V. Pinkney, executive secretary; Mrs. Virginia Kiah, former membership secretary, and LeRoy Carter, assistant field secretary from the New York office.

Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Cab Calloway are other band leaders who are life members of the NAACP. Lunceford is the seventy-third paid up life member of the Association.

Praise for Sports Figures: In a letter from the NAACP, Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers was praised for "following the sound American tradition of fair play," in signing Jackie Robinson to play with the Montreal Royals, farm club of the Dodgers. "Especially do we appreciate," the letter stated, "your statements at the time of the signing and subsequent to it. There was no equivocation from the Dodger office.'

In another letter, signed by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP, Rudy York, star first baseman of the world championship Detroit Tigers, drew praise from the Association for his statement wishing Jackie Robinson "all the luck in the world" as the first Negro member of organized baseball. York, whose hometown is Cartersville, Georgia, was the only Southern white player who made a favorable comment on the signing of Robinson by the Brooklyn Dodger management.

School Strikes Investigated: According to on-the-spot investigations made by Miss Noma Jensen of the NAACP New York office, the school strikes in Gary, Ind., and Chicago give real evidence of being fomented by an organized group or groups. Miss Jensen's investigation disclosed facts that ran counter to the stories in the daily newspapers.

She said that members of well known subversive organizations are active in Gary and that "all have a stake in this Froebel school strike and they are acting accordingly."

Sinatra Hits Juvenile Intolerance: Frank Sinatra, of radio and stage fame, condemned racial and religious intolerance of juveniles in a speech to several thousand students at New York's Benjamin Franklin High School. The school was the scene several weeks ago of disturbances between Negro and white teen-age groups, some students in the school and some boys in the neighborhood.

Sinatra's appearance was arranged by the national office of the NAACP with Dr. Leonard Covello, principal of the school. The following week, Sinatra spoke to students at Froebel high school in Gary, Indiana.

To London Youth Meet: Gloster Current, executive secretary of the Detroit NAACP branch, represented the Association last month at the World Youth Conference held in London, England, October 31 to November 9.

Minimum Wage Bill Is Supported: Leslie Perry of the NAACP Washington Bureau testified early last month before the House Labor Committee in support of the Pepper-Hook 65 cents minimum wage bill, which would raise the minimum wage of all unskilled laborers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 from 40 cents an hour to 65 cents, and after two years automatically to 75 cents.

Although endorsing the principal of the legislation, the NAACP said that an amendment was needed to protect Negro workers from wage differentials based solely on race.

Share Your Crisis With A Friend

What the Branches Are Doing

CONNECTICUT: The Greenwich branch held its regular meeting on November 25, with Roy Wilkins, assistant executive secretary of the NAACP and editor of THE CRISIS as principal speaker. Wilkins spoke on "The Fight Against Native Fascism."

ILLINOIS: In its 1945 membership campaign, the Chicago branch reported 17,500 new members and over $26,000 in dues up to November 11. Detroit, Baltimore and Chicago are the largest branches in the NAACP. All have memberships of more than 15,000. Detroit leads with 24,000 members. Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, national field secretary, directed the Chicago membership campaign. Oscar G. Brown is president of the branch.

Members of the Decatur branch were pleased with the stand taken by the *Decatur Herald* on the signing of Jackie Robinson with the Brooklyn Dodgers' farm team.

Commenting on the recent sports move which paves the way for the entrance of the Negro into organized baseball, the *Herald* says editorially, "Branch Rickey . . . is a sociologist as well as a baseball man. He is aware of all the issues involved. He will be commended for his precedent-breaking action. But the major share of the applause must be reserved for Jackie Robinson. His courage, his patience and tolerance will have much to do with determining the success of this latest experiment in promoting improved race relations in this country."

INDIANA: The Kokomo branch held the second of a series of meetings on reconversion problems at the Mount Pisgah Baptist Church. The program featured a panel discussion on the topic, "The Part I Play in the World of Tomorrow." Speakers were Mrs. Goldie Madry, whose subject was "Recreation"; Willis Robertson, "The Negro and His Vote"; and Herbert Terry, "Labor and Unions." A mass chorus of all churches under the direction of Mrs. Veloica Edwards, furnished music for the program. The Rev. H. A. Perry and Hollis King, president of the branch, were additional speakers. Lee John Jackson served as general chairman of the program.

MARYLAND: At the close of the annual membership campaign recently held in Baltimore, the branch of that city reported approximately 12,000 new members and a cash total of $14,500. Counting the continuing members of the branch, the grand total is declared by branch officers to be nearly 20,000.

Because of increased activity in the problems in this area, the Baltimore branch, one of the three largest in the country, has moved into a suite of six rooms, the entire first floor at 402 Dolphin street, corner McCulloh. Addison V. Pinkney is executive secretary and Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson is president.

MASSACHUSETTS: The executive board of the New England Regional NAACP Conference held a recent regular meeting in Worcester at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Oswell, members of the Worcester branch. Nine branches were represented: Newport, Providence, Springfield, Boston, New Bedford, New Britain, Bridgeport, New Haven and Worcester. Bernard Jackson, president of the Boston Youth Council, was also present and acted as secretary of the meeting.

The Boston Youth Council was recently awarded the Isaac Smalls Award for work accomplished.

NEW JERSEY: Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary of the NAACP, conducted the 1945 membership campaign of the Camden branch, which featured a mass meeting on November 11 with Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, as principal speaker.

Story of the Month

Another stronghold of discrimination against Negroes at Anacostia Naval Receiving Station has been wiped out with the opening of the swimming pool on the base to colored service men on orders from U. S. Navy Rear Admiral William M. Fechteler, assistant chief of naval personnel.

In September, Electricians' Mate First Class James E. Wright was a student at the Navy's Electrical Inter-Communication school at the receiving station. He reported to the Washington, D. C. branch of the NAACP that he had been refused admittance when he went to the pool at a time designated for the students.

George E. C. Hayes, president of the District of Columbia branch, wrote the Navy Department, inquiring into the circumstances of Wright's experience and received the reply that "the Navy is desirous of preventing discrimination against any of its personnel."

When Wright subsequently met a second refusal at the swimming pool, the NAACP again wrote asking for a clear statement of policy with regard to the pool.

Rear Admiral Fechteler replied that "instructions have been issued that all facilities at the Receiving Station, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., shall be available on the same basis to all authorized personnel regardless of race or color."

Wright, with a record of more than three years wartime service, was the first Negro to graduate from the Electrical Inter-Communication school, where he was an outstanding student. He was honorably discharged from the Navy last October 12. After his discharge he visited his family in Detroit, but returned to Washington recently to join the picket line at the home of Senator Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi, where a Veterans' Picket to Oust Bilbo has been maintained for several weeks.

G. Marshall Wilson

NEW SECRETARY—*Charles A. Shorter, recently appointed executive secretary of the Philadelphia branch.*

NEW YORK: At the regular meeting of the New Rochelle branch on Sunday, November 11, at the Gospel Tabernacle, Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP and editor of THE CRISIS, was the principal speaker. The membership committee of the branch reported more than 900 members to date. John Tate is president of the New Rochelle branch.

OHIO: At a meeting of the Ohio Conference of Branches delegates representing 29 branches with an aggregate membership of 35,000, met Oct. 27-28 in Dayton to adopt a series of strongly-worded resolutions as blueprints for future action in dealing with statewide problems.

The speedy enactment of a State Fair Employment Practices law was urged by the conference. Each branch was urged to be on the alert to safeguard the interests of returning veterans and to assist them in securing their rights in the areas of full employment, housing and all other benefits provided for by state and federal legislation. The conference also asked that "all branches go on record as insisting on complete integration of patients, doctors, dentists, nurses, technicians and administrative personnel in all veteran facilities and that committees be appointed by every branch to visit such hospitals with the purpose of determining their policies and practices in this respect and report same to the National Office."

Another resolution was adopted insisting on "the complete and immediate cessation of segregation in the armed forces," and urging that "promotion and assignments be made on the basis of merit and ability." There were also pertinent resolutions on housing and urban redevelopment of local boards of education.

In its concluding resolution, the group asked each branch to petition its congressmen and senators to actively support the following pending legislation: Full Employment Bill, Fair Employment Pactice Commission legislation, amendment of the Fair Labor Standards Act providing for 65-75 cents per hour minimum wage, abolition of the poll tax, the Wagner-Dingell-Murray Social Security bill, the maintenance of post-war price controls, and the anti-lynching bill.

The resolutions were signed by the following members of the conference: William Howard, Youngstown; Artee Fleming, Akron; Marian Williams, Dayton; Edward Cox, Columbus; Howard Snell, Cincinnati; N. K. Christopher, Cleveland; T. M. Berry, chairman, Cincinnati.

Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, was the principal speaker at the closing meeting of the Ohio Conference of Branches on October 28.

The membership drive of the Toledo branch closed with a victory dinner at the Third Baptist church and a total membership of 1,305 and collection of $1,616 was reported. The Rev. G. J. Johnson was general chairman of the Toledo campaign and Mrs. Iola Heslip was co-chairman. The Rev. Clyde Adams is president of the Toledo branch.

Mrs. Miley O. Williamson, executive secretary of the Dayton branch and Fred Dillard, local labor leader, were guest speakers at the meeting during which the Youngstown branch launched its annual membership campaign at the Federal Street YMCA. The Rev. S. S. Booker is campaign director and the goal of the branch is 2,000 new members. In recent weeks the branch has been engaged in combatting police brutality and anti-Negro sentiment in the public schools.

WINS AWARD—*Mrs. Adelaide Plum of the Los Angeles branch is shown here accepting the gold award, which she won for reporting the largest number of members by individual effort in the branch's* 1945 *membership campaign.*

PENNSYLVANIA: Members of the Philadelphia branch lauded Tom Moorehead, radio station WFIL sportscaster, for his recent broadcast on the signing of Jackie Robinson, star shortstop of the Kansas City Monarchs, to a major league farm club by Branch Rickey, manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

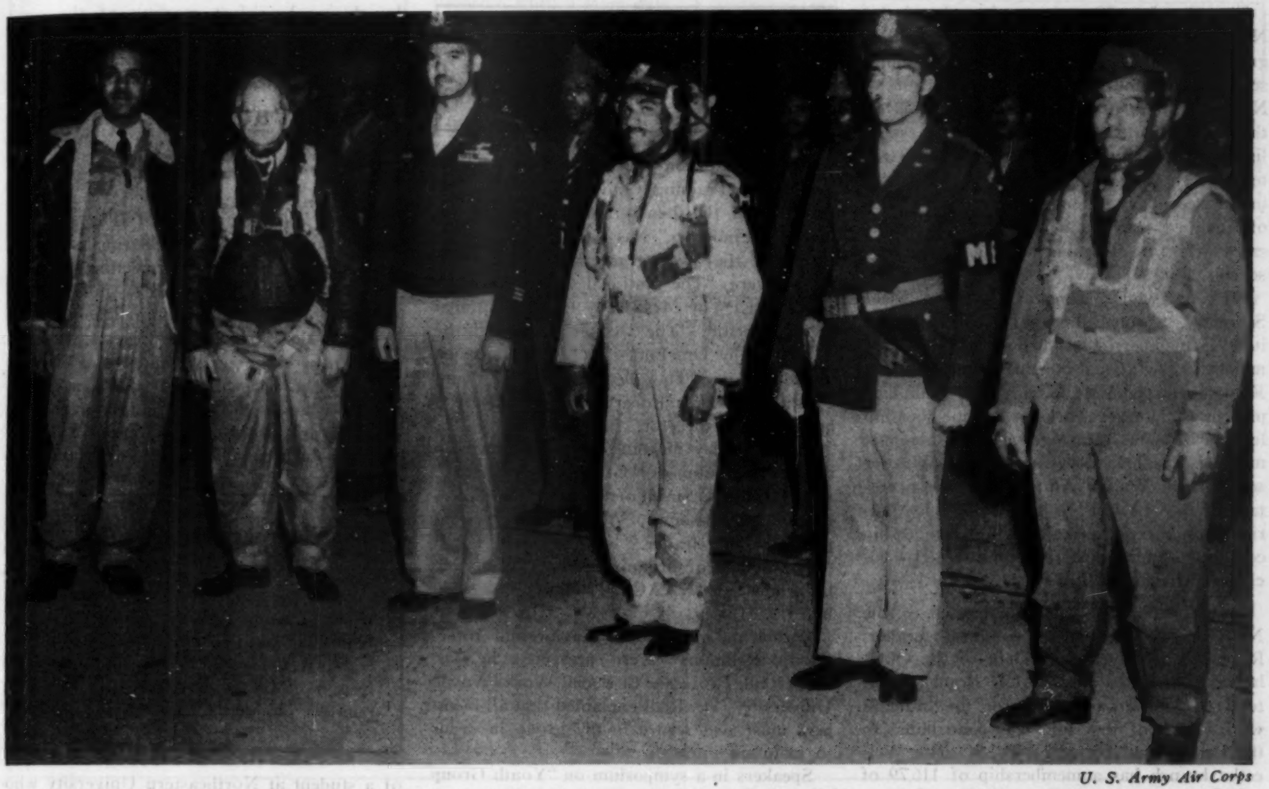
The sportscaster, who took time out of his regular broadcast to hail Rickey's action, said in part: "For a long period of time, far too long, baseball has ignored the rights of minorities. It is amazing that baseball has been so prejudiced for such a long period of time. But let's hope that from here on out, everyone and anyone will have an equal opportunity in the sports field regardless of what that sport may be. . . . This is strictly the start of what might be termed real democratic progress, one which, to my way of thinking, cannot help but be successful because it is right. We in America cannot go on forever telling the world that we believe in freedom of this and freedom of that, and an equal opportunity for everyone unless we mean it. More and more we are getting to the point where we do mean it. It would be marvelous if from now on, we worked together with less and less prejudice."

A recent article entitled, "Yellow Cab is Yellow," in *The Veterans' Journal,* liberal spokesman for vets in Philadelphia, brought forth an urgent appeal from the local NAACP that the Journal support a campaign for all veterans interested in establishing a cab service in Philadelphia.

In part the appeal was as follows: "In behalf of all the veterans in Philadelphia, members of their families and every other American who has made any sacrifice to fight a war for freedom for all people, we beseech you and those connected with The Veterans' Journal to immediately take steps to have the campaign for G.I. Taxi-Cab Association coordinated so that colored and white G.I.'s will be fighting together instead of having to fight each other, and then fight Yellow Cab, too. This is the only way this fight can be won."

"Getting on the Beam" will be theme of the first Philadelphia Area Youth Conference to

RECEIVES GIFT FROM BRANCH—*For his outstanding services during the recent* 1945 *membership campaign, Thomas L. Griffith Jr., president of the Los Angeles, California branch receives a gift of appreciation from the branch. Shown here, left to right, are: E. C. Atkinson, Nita Blackwell, field secretary; L. G. Robinson, vice president; Alice Cunningham, board member; Thomas L. Griffith Jr., Zella M. Taylor, branch secretary, and Clarence S. Smith, financial secretary.*



U. S. Army Air Corps

"THRILL" FOR NATIONAL OFFICERS—*Col. B. O. Davis Jr., is shown welcoming Walter White and Roy Wilkins on their arrival at Godman Field last month. Despite the fact that the globe-trotting NAACP executive secretary, Walter White, had flown over 150,000 miles by military aircraft, he stated that this trip was his first with a Negro crew. He termed it "a thrilling experience and . . . the smoothest flight I ever had." Shown, as a guard of honor turned out to welcome the executives, are left to right, Roy Wilkins and Walter White (still in parachutes and flying clothes); Col. Davis, commanding officer of Godman Army Air Field; 1st Lt. Charles Walker, Jackson, Mich., pilot; 1st Lt. William Parks, Asbury Park, N. J., provost marshal and Flight Officer William Williams, Cleveland, Ohio, co-pilot.*

be held December 26, 27 and 28. There are now more than 500 members of seven youth councils now functioning through the Philadelphia branch.

The board of directors of the Philadelphia branch announced the appointment of Charles Shorter to the position of executive secretary during the last week in October. A native of Washington, D. C., Shorter is a graduate of Howard University where he received both the B.A. and M.A. degrees. He has also studied housing administration at the University of Pennsylvania and has had a varied career in the fields of housing and industrial relations. He was introduced to the branch membership at the regular meeting on November 6. Mr. Shorter was the principal speaker at the Mount Zion Baptist church on November 11. An experienced industrial relations and personnel adviser, he spoke on "What Can We Do to Help Solve Our Own Racial Problems." The meeting was under the auspices of Area 9, and was directed by Mrs. Mable Young, chairman and William L. Strong, modeartor.

Texas: The San Antonio branch NAACP closed its membership drive with 1,528 members. The campaign director, F. S. Sonier, worked out a system of dividing the city into four zones in which he placed a major over each zone. Each major, in turn, appointed his own workers. The city was effectively covered in this manner. The four campaign majors were: O. E. Fitzgerald, Garland Speaker, Dr. H. E. Hayward and P. F. Roberts. Dr. Haywood was announced as the winning major with a total of $629.50.

Virginia: A state-wide fight for full citizenship rights on all fronts was continued by vote of all the delegates to the tenth annual Virginia State Conference of Branches of the NAACP which met in Richmond November 3-4. Resolutions adopted by the Conference provide for legal action in criminal cases, equalizing educational opportunities and public transportation; housing, employment and other state and community affairs. The conference heard a report of its legal committee on the concentrated effort made last year to abolish segregation and discrimination in interstate travel. A total of 114 delegates was present from 52 branches of the 68 in the state. Dr. J. M. Tinsley was re-elected president.

The Roanoke branch has undertaken as its local project the registration of all persons in the community. Two public mass meetings have been held to give the widest possible publicity to the project. At both meetings, which were-attended, it was urged that not only NAACP members, but all of the local citizenry should register. W. C. Rose represented the branch at the state conference in Richmond.

The Fairfax County Branch has presented the community library three books about the Negro—"The Winds of Fear," "Deep River," and "What The Negro Wants," the latter edited by Rayford Logan. In addition to these, the educational committee under the Rev. W. E. Corner's chairmanship has made available to branch members six other books —"Freedom Road," "The American Dilemma," "There Are Things to Do," "The Negro in Virginia," "Races of Mankind," and "The White Christian and His Conscience." The educational committee of the Fairfax County branch is also building a mailing list of leading white citizens in the community to whom suitable literature will be sent in the interest of interracial understanding.

West Virginia: Charleston's Municipal Auditorium was packed almost to the limit of its 3,500 seat capacity recently when Marion Anderson, the great Negro contralto, was welcomed back to the state in a concert presented under the auspices of the Charleston barnch of the NAACP. During intermission, the branch presented the singer with a large sheaf of crimson roses.

The Camden, New Jersey branch of the NAACP is continuing its fight for full integration of pupils and teachers in the public schools of Camden and the appointment of Negro teachers to the secondary schools of the city. So far, no legal case has been established as the branch has not been able to get teachers to file applications for appointments in the secondary schools. There is a number of qualified teachers with secondary certificates who are teaching in the elementary schools.

Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, National Field Secretary, assisted the branch in launching its 1945 membership campaign for 3,000 new members. The annual meeting was held at the Frances Harper YMCA with Mrs. Lampkins present to instruct workers and membership leaders for the campaign. The first report meeting was held November 11 at Whittier school, with Walter White, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, as speaker. Dr. J. Maurice Vaughn is chairman of the membership committee and campaign committee. His co-chairman is Robert Loving.

Oklahoma: The Weleetka branch of the NAACP recently had as its guest speaker, Roscoe Dunjee, state president of the Oklahoma Conference of NAACP Branches. A total of $36.17 was raised for the branch's work. Part of this sum was contributed to the Leroy Benton case of Tulsa. The Weleetka branch has a membership of 116,79 of whom are adults and 37 youth members.

Tennessee: A committee to study the merits and demerits of candidates for city council and school board of Knoxville was appointed at a recent regular meeting of the Knoxville branch NAACP at a meeting at the Carnegia library. The Rev. D. Albert Jackson, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist church, is president of the branch. Three hundred members of the Knoxville branch were present at meeting at which city election study committee was named.

West Virginia: At the state convention of branches of the NAACP held in Huntington, the Rev. J. Carl Miller, pastor of the local Sixteenth Street Baptist church, was reelected state secretary. Other state officers named include: T. G. Nutter, Charleston attorney, reelected president; Dr. M. A. Morrison, Wheeling, first vice president; and Mrs. Emma Hammler, Charleston, treasurer. Speakers during the Conference included: A. H. Calloway, assistant superintendent of Knawha county schools; Judge H. Clay Warth, Cabell county Common Pleas court, H. D. Hazelwood, principal of Douglass high school and Donald F. Jones, national field director of the NAACP. A 60-voice chorus sang at the conference's closing session.

Bishop John A. Gregg of Kansas City, Kas., was guest speaker at the opening meeting of the Charleston branch's 1945-46 term. The A.M.E. church prelate was the house-guest of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Nutter. Special music during the meeting was under the direction of Mrs. Dennis Smith.

'On The Beam' With Youth Councils

Detroit, Michigan: The first annual Youth Leadership Training Conference of the Detroit branch, the theme of which was "Building for Democracy" was held October 26-28, 1945. At the opening meeting subjects discussed were, "The National Organization of the NAACP" by Mrs. Ruby Hurley, national youth director; "The Detroit Branch of the NAACP" by Dr. James McClendon, branch president and "The Detroit Branch Youth Program by Miss Roberta McGuire, Detroit branch youth director.

The Saturday morning session began with the consideration of "Group Organization," with Dr. M. R. Smith of the Division of Students and Personnel, Wayne University as the discussion leader.

The details of organizing and formulating programs for NAACP groups were given by Mrs. Hurley.

"Problems of Group Behavior and Inter-Group Relations" were presented by Dr. Fritz Redl, Professor of Social Work, Wayne University. Dr. Redl explained that all members must feel secure in the group in order to maintain interest.

Speakers in a symposium on "Youth Group Activities Programs" were Mr. Collins J. Reynolds, American Council on Education, Committee on Inter-Group Relations and teacher in Detroit public schools; chairmen, Mrs. Marietta Hipple, Crafts Instructor, Cooley high school; Mr. Jesse Owen, Olympic Star; Mr. Gilbert Rau, speech instructor, Wayne University and a music instructor from Northwestern high school.

Mrs. Hipple displayed several types of craftwork, handbags, wallets and jewelry, pointing out that craftwork projects could be incorporated in any youth group programs.

Mr. Owens stressed the importance of recreation for its health value and training in sportsmanship and fair play.

A trio of Northwestern high school student's accompanied by their instructor presented several folk songs as suggested means of improving human relationships through music.

The value of spontaneous drama and skits, was explained by Mr. Rau. He also emphasized the importance of utilizing the radio for youth group programs.

Mrs. Jeanetta Welch Brown delivered an address on "Youth in the International Scene" at the Saturday evening session. Several musical selections given by the Du Pre Choir were very well received.

Community singing, under the direction of Mrs. Dorothy Steger, choral specialist, Department of Parks and Recreation; selections by the NAACP Youth Choir, directed by Mr. William Hines and a summary of the conference by Mrs. Hurley were the features of the closing breakfast meeting of the conference.

Gordon Klopf, Division of Student Personnel was the chairman of the conference Planning Committee, the other members of which were Mr. Lou Fraiburg, Miss Nina Gainer, Mrs. Helen Garner and Mr. Collins J. Reynolds.

Boston, Massachusetts: The Boston Youth Council received the Ike Smalls Award for achievement at a mass meeting, Sunday, November 25th. There will be no let-down in their work or leaning back on their laurels from the looks of their present program. They are working on the cases of a 13 year old boy who is accused of raping a grown white woman in broad daylight; a veteran of World War II refused admittance to a Business School because of color; discrimination of a student at Northeastern University who was refused housing because of color. They are pressing the Boston Housing Authority for no segregation in the proposed new housing project and working to increase membership to include all people and to educate the public on the importance of full employment and a permanent FEPC.

Contest Deadline

Deadline of the Youth Council Essay Contest has been extended to December 15. Prize winning essays should be sent from the Youth Councils directly to the National Office, 20 West 40th street, New York 18, N. Y. There will be no regional judging.

The council reports that discrimination has been increasing in Boston to an alarming extent and that it plans to spearhead the organization of a Peoples Committee to Combat Intolerance to serve as a clearing house for all information relative to techniques and strategy.

Riverside, California: We have not heard much from our West Coast groups recently but this council has reported that their first project on the Fall program was a popularity contest, the winner of which was to have been crowned at a Halloween Dance. Riverside had planned to be represented at the Annual Youth Conference. We hope they will be able to come at the new time, December 27-30.

Parkersburg, West Virginia: Here is a new Youth Council in the making. They have twenty-three members now and hope to qualify for a charter very soon. One of their main objectives is to get some recreational facilities for Negro Youth in the Community.

Plainfield, New Jersey: The Youth Council has sent 350 letters to Federal and State government officials since it has been organized. Delegates were sent to the New

Will We Be Seeing You?

The first postwar conference of the National Youth Council of the NAACP is scheduled to meet December 27-30, 1945 on the campus of Wilberforce University, Xenia, Ohio. Mrs. Ruby Hurley, National Youth Director, is expecting a record attendance and hopes that all Youth Council delegates who had made plans to attend on the previously announced date can make this meeting.

Jersey State Youth Conference of Youth Councils of which the former chairman of the publicity committee Robert C. Pittard, was elected president. Pittard is now president pro tem since Fulton Hines Jr. is on leave to the Armed Forces. Several thousand copies of the State Civil Rights Law have been prepared for distribution and the education of the community. The Y.M.C.A. has donated a room for the use of the council which had been decorated and set up by Youth Council members as their office.

EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA: The Youth Council of the Easton branch, NAACP, held an organizational meeting recently in the Union A.M.E. church. Plans for the election of officers was discussed, but the election was deferred until a later date. Educational, social and recreational activities were proposed and it was planned to organize a bowling league if alleys can be obtained. The Misses Wilma Reed, Josephine Dorsey, Margaret Thomas, Geraldine Russell and Dorcas Reed were appointed to a committee to plan an immediate social affair.

An Adventure in Friendship

A dual job of extending international goodwill and collecting needed garments for overseas relief will be undertaken by the United National Clothing Collection, Inc., 100 Maiden Lane, New York 7, N. Y., in its Victory Clothing Collection scheduled for January.

The goal of the collectors is one million garments and all donors of garments, shoes, articles of bedding and other items are being asked to enclose messages of goodwill to the unknown recipients overseas. Because of war-time restrictions this was not permitted in the clothing collection of last spring.

Letters accompanying the gifts of clothing and other articles will personalize them and make it possible for some of the individuals who receive garments to write letters in reply, according to Mrs. Paul Blanshard, educational director for the local drive. "It is an adventure in friendship," she says.

Book Reviews

BLIND REVOLT

***If He Hollers Let Him Go.* A novel by Chester B. Himes. Doubleday, Doran and Company, New York. 249 pp. $2.50.**

Chester B. Himes, a talented young Negro writer who has been known up to now for his sharp, hard-hitting short stories (several of which have appeared in The Crisis) publishes his first book, a novel called, "If He Hollers Let Him Go," the story of Bob Jones, a young shipyard worker on the West Coast during the war years 1941-43.

It is a tale of confusion over the race problem and of blind revolt, a revolt that thrashes out against every incident, every idea, every unuttered whisper that would separate, humiliate, and shackle American Negroes on the basis of color.

Bob Jones had a simple objective: "I didn't want to be be the biggest Negro who ever lived, neither Toussaint L'Overture nor Walter White. . . . I'd settle for a leaderman's job at Atlas Shipyard—if I could be a man, defined by Webster as a male human being. That's all I'd ever wanted—just to be ac-

Children love the story of TOBE

By STELLA GENTRY SHARPE

THEY like to look at Charles Farrell's enchanting photographs of Tobe and his seven brothers and sisters, read about the fun Tobe has on the farm in North Carolina; raising cotton and picking peaches; making ice cream and playing ghost on Hallow-e'en; seeing Santa Claus and eating good things on Thanksgiving.

$2.00, at your bookstore

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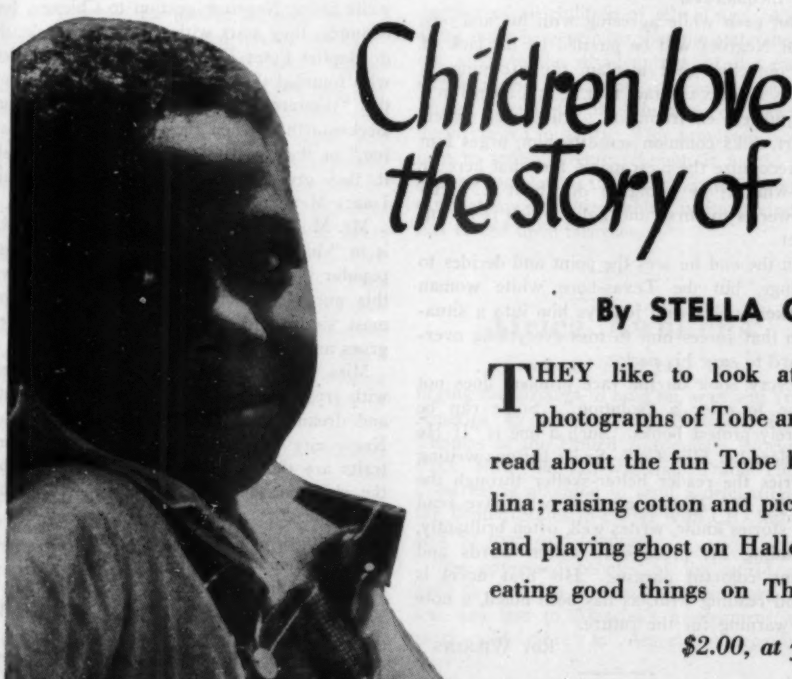
GET YOUR CHILD A COPY of TOBE

cepted as a man—without ambition, without distinction, either of race, creed, or color; just a simple Joe walking down an American street, going my simple way, without any other identifying characteristics but weight, height and gender."

The book tells the story of Bob Jones's rebellion against the society that refused to recognize him as a man, that persisted in branding him and restricting him as a Negro. Jones has no plan, no thought, no philosophy. He just strikes out at anyone and anything that hurts him. At the slightest provocation he wants to fight, to smash, to kill.

Nothing pleases him. No one is genuine and human. No weapon, no ally, satisfies him.

If He Hollers Let Him Go

AND he hollers plenty! The story of Bob Jones is the story of an underdog who didn't know he was one until it was forced down his throat. The woman he loves—and the one he hates . . . the job he fought for . . . the frustrations he lives with . . . build up to a climax you'll never forget. With unparalleled courage and a James M. Cain punch, CHESTER HIMES has woven a novel as shocking as it is true . . . one that will be banned nowhere—but on the bookshelves of the timid.

A novel by

CHESTER B. HIMES

At your bookseller's, $2.50

DOUBLEDAY, DORAN

REELECTED—*Dr. J. M. Tinsely, president of the Virginia State Conference of Branches.*

Most Negro readers will like Jones. He is wrong and foolish, but he understands white people and he tells so acurately how Negroes feel about the countless humiliations heaped upon them hour after hour. Jones is sick of evasions, by-plays, runarounds, and insults—and Negroes are sick of them. He "talks plain" about white folk and what will please his fellow dark Americans who are a little fed up with smooth polite discussions of color line inequalities.

But even while agreeing with his analysis, most Negroes will be puzzled by his lack of an objective and a plan for attaining it. Jones ignores the fact that he is a Negro in a prejudiced environment. Alice, his sweetheart, talks common sense to him, urges him to recognize the inescapable fact that here he is—what is he going to do about it? His answer is to curse and fight, which is no answer.

In the end he sees the point and decides to change, but the Texas-born, white woman worker on his ship jockeys him into a situation that forces him to toss everything overboard to save his neck.

Every book on the race problem does not have to offer a "solution." Some can be merely protest books. Such a one is "If He Hollers Let Him Go." Swift furious writing carries the reader helter-skelter through the story. Mr. Himes, as those who have read his stories know, writes well, often brilliantly, studding his prose with action words and blunt, colorful phrases. His first novel is good reading with, as has been noted, a note of warning for the future.

Roy Wilkins

Jamaicans Send Money Home

Between January and June of 1945 the Jamaican agricultural and industrial workers, who are in this country helping to relieve wartime labor shortages, sent home over $400,000.

RACE AND EMPIRE

They Seek A City. By Arna Bontemps and Jack Conroy. New York: Doubleday, Doran and Co., Inc., 1945. XVII+266 pp. $2.75.

***Primer For White Folks.* Edited by Bucklin Moon. New York: Doubleday, Doran and Co., Inc., 1945. XIV+491 pp. $3.50.**

***A Street In Bronzeville.* By Gwendolyn Brooks. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1945. VII+57 pp. $2.00.**

***Against These Three.* By Stuart Cloete. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1945. IX+472 pp. $3.50.**

These four books discuss various aspects of the relations between white folks and Negroes. The first title is a study of Negro migratory movements within the United States; the second, an anthology of writings by and about Negroes from slavery days to the present; the third, a volume of verse reflecting Negro life in an urban setting; and the fourth, a biography of the three men out of whose fumblings and failings, together with their achievements, has come the Union of South Africa. What differentiates *They Seek A City* from previous studies of Negro migrations in the United States is that the authors write about the four great Negro migratory movements in terms of the colorful personalities who pioneered them. When they write about Negro migration to Chicago, for example, they start with a thumb-nail sketch of Baptist Point Du Sable, the Negro trader who founded the city. When they write about the "Western Passes," they start with Jim Beckwourth. When they write about "passing," or the "invisible migration" as they call it, they give us the colorful story of Adah Isaacs Menken.

Mr. Moon's aim in *Primer for White Folks* is to "shatter some of white America's most popular ideas about the Negro." To achieve this purpose he has collected some of the most significant writings by and about Negroes and organized them into this book.

Miss Brooks' slim volume of verse etches, with fresh realism and authenticity, incidents and dreams out of the lives of present-day Negro city dwellers. Among her many portraits are those of the mother tormented by the children she did not get as well as by those she got:

> Abortions will not let you forget.
> You remember the children you got
> that you did not get,
> The damp small pulps with a little or with
> no hair,
> The singers and workers that never handled
> the air.

And Pearl May Lee who wails:

> . . . you paid for your white arms, Sammy
> boy,
> And you didn't pay with money.
> You paid with your hide and my heart,
> Sammy boy,

For your taste of pink and white honey . . .

In addition to the portraits there are sharply outlined pictures of kitchenettes and life in Bronzeville's streets as well as verse depicting phases of Army life and a poem on Dorie Miller.

Stuart Cloete's *Against These Three* is a biography of the three giants who struggled for power and supremacy in South Africa during the latter half of the nineteenth century: Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger, Cecil John Rhodes, and Lobengula.

Mr. Cloete tells little about the razor-blade of misery on which the natives live, and dwells only fleetingly on the tragedy of the fact that they are now virtually foreigners in their own land. He also advances the now discredited argument that the "civilizing races" (whatever this means) decay when they submerge their blood in "the quicksands of the African blood." It is not surprising to find that he also believes in segregation, jim-crowism, and race purity.

James W. Ivy

Federal Aid

(*Continued from page* 352)

tax paying ability per capita of $30 or over, and six states have less than $10. Mississippi, which shows up steadily at the bottom of the list in educational expenditures, teachers' salaries and percentage of pupils in school, also shows up at the bottom of the list in relative tax paying capacity per inhabitant as well as in total income per child.

The necessity for Federal Aid to Education is, therefore, very clear. American citizens everywhere should have the best possible educational opportunities, and that simply cannot be done if each state is left to carry the burden unaided. It is not a sufficient answer for those who live where educational opportunities are good and taxes paid to support education are relatively high in dollars to say that they have done their share by providing good schools in their own neck of the woods. The fact is undeniable that poor schooling anywhere in the United States tends to spread its harmful influence into the whole economic and political life of the nation.

The first thing that an appropriation for Federal Aid to Education must do is to raise school teachers' salaries. This is an emergency measure necessary to prevent classroom overcrowding and/or the actual shutting down of the smaller schools in some states.

The second important thing is to distribute a suitable sum, at least $100,000,000, to the states to supplement their expenditures on education, not by a simple process of matching a dollar spent by the state with a dollar or a fixed proportion thereof contributed by the federal government, but on a basis which will provide substantially more federal funds to the poorer states. A good way to do that would be to make the proportion of federal money given to the states increase in proportion to the amount by which the average income in such states falls below the national average and visa versa. States, whose tax paying capacity was already high might get very little on this latter basis, but they would still gain from the funds to supplement teachers' salaries and their inhabitants would gain from having a substantially better educational average throughout the entire country.

Naturally the demand for state and local control of education, hallowed as it is by tradition, must be fairly considered and allowed for. There should, therefore, no more than three strings attached to federal contributions to education.

In order to qualify to receive federal funds the state and local communities should not reduce the amount they pay for education, so that the federal government and tax payer will know that their contributions actually go to increase educational opportunities and raise teachers' salaries. Second, there should be some agreement on tenure for teachers and civil service protection for employees of the state and local educational departments so that teachers would not merely be political puppets.

Finally, it is necessary for the federal government to insist that where there are separate schools on a racial basis the federal funds should be distributed without discrimination, so that schools for Negroes or other racial minorities will get federal funds at least in the proportion that the number of Negro children of school age bear to the number of all children of school age. Again there must be a proviso that the state should not alter to the disadvantage of the racial minority the proportion of funds which it already spends for the education of that underprivileged minority. This provision would help to reduce greatly, though it would not abolish completely, the discrimination in educational opportunities which white prejudice has forced upon Negroes.

Africa Awakens

(*Continued from page* 350)

urging the strikers to hold on, was sent from America by International President R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, CIO. Now the All-Nigerian Trade Union Congress is planning to send a delegation to the United States to confer with CIO leaders and to tour our country.

The oppressed peoples of the world still look to America for help and support, but less and less to America's government and more and more to America's organized workers.

Nobody in Nigeria, least of all able Mr. Imoude and his colleagues, would claim that the strike is more than a beginning in solving the backbreaking problems which beset all colonial peoples. The basis of British rule remains unchanged in Nigeria, and that basis is the ownership of the country's fabulous natural resources by absentee British capital.

Structure Unchanged

Neither has the political structure been changed, since the African members of the legislative assembly are men appointed by the Crown rather than men elected by Africans themselves. Eighty per cent of the country's income still goes to Britain to keep up a horde of stockholders—pensioners who grew fat while they were bossing Nigerians, and then returned home to enjoy their gout, that section of Britain's aristocracy which staked out land in Africa when land got scarce in England.

However, the important thing is that a

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beginning has been made in Africa, the worst example of colonialism in all the infamous history of colonialism. What happened in Nigeria is proof that a new age is upon us, the age when empires no longer conquer but crumble.

What's Ahead?

(*Continued from page 347*)

Bear Mountain, N. Y., to the Dodger spring training camp for tryouts. Rickey thus confronted, allowed the two to work out and then caustically declared that Thomas was too old and wouldn't do and that he wasn't too interested in MacDuffie, who is also getting along in years. The incident, however, served to harden Rickey's determination to break the color line.

When the Pittsburgh Courier's Wendell Smith took Jackie Robinson, Marvin Williams, infielder of the Philadelphia Stars, and Sammy Jethroe, outfielder of the Cleveland Buckeyes, to Boston for a tryout for the Boston Red Sox, the wedge widened the opening. Rickey was not sure about what he was going to do. Meanwhile, he was reading much encouraging material in the Negro press about the support he would get from the Negro public as well as the fair-minded white fan if he took the step. He finally sent for Robinson, talked to him and told him to hold himself in readiness to come. Jackie then returned to the Kansas City club. Incidentally, the 1945 season was Robinson's first in professional baseball.

Color Ban Broken

The former all-American backfield star at UCLA is today the symbol of hope for millions of colored people in this country, and elsewhere. Upon him are also pinned the hopes of millions of fair-minded whites who want to see every American get a chance, regardless of race, creed or color.

Although the Royals train at Daytona Beach, Florida, in the heart of the Jim Crow belt of the South, Robinson has made up his mind on how he will approach that problem. Like Rickey, he believes the end is more desirable and bigger than the method and plans to accept conditions as he finds them. He plans to live in the home of a Negro family while training at Daytona Beach and to travel as the club owners direct and in this case, the public can be assured that Rickey will give Robinson every consideration he can.

Meanwhile, Rickey must fight some of Robinson's own people on a matter that benefits them the most. Baseball's color line has been broken, but there are some folk who can't take it yet.

Fleming To AFS Committee

An expanded race relations program on a national basis was recently announced by the American Friends Service Committee in connection with the appointment to its executive staff of G. James Fleming, who has been regional director in Philadelphia of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice for Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

LEGAL DIRECTORY

The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorneys outside their home towns. The Crisis maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights.

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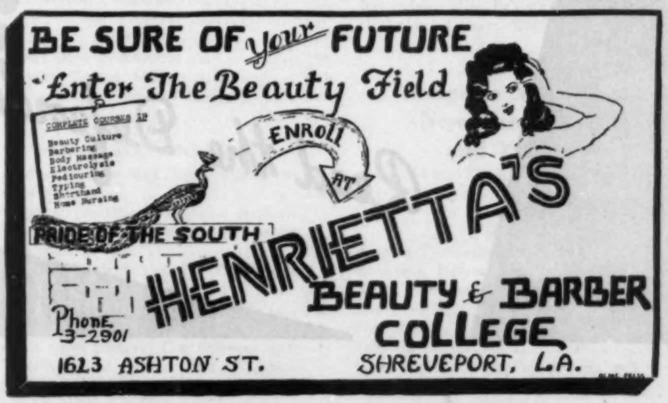

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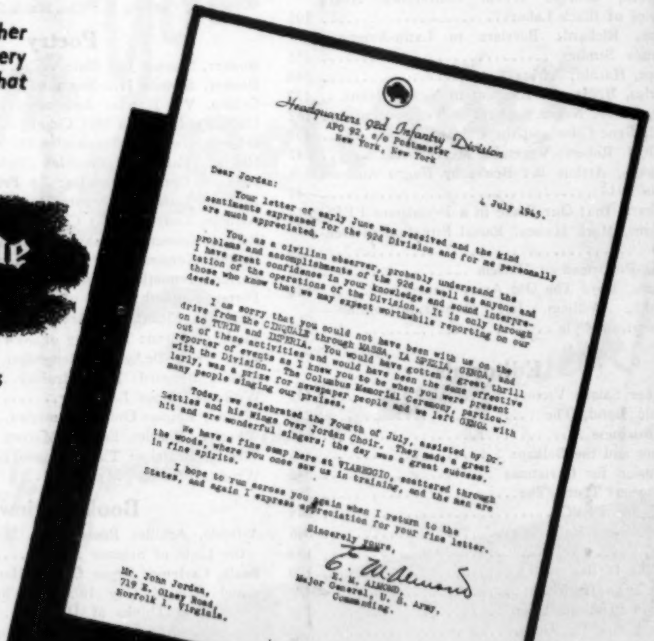

Headquarters 92d Infantry Division
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4 July 1945.

Dear Jordan:

Your letter of early June was received and the kind sentiments expressed for the 92d Division and for me personally are much appreciated.

You, as a civilian observer, probably understand the problems and accomplishments of the 92d as well as anyone and I have great confidence in your knowledge and sound interpretation of the operations of the Division. It is only through those who know that we may expect worthwhile reporting on our deeds.

I am sorry that you could not have been with us on the drive from the CINQUALE through MASSA, LA SPEZIA, GENOA, and on to TURIN and IMPERIA. You would have gotten a great thrill out of these activities and would have been the same effective reporter of events as I knew you to be when you were present with the Division. The Columbus Memorial Ceremony, particularly, was a prize for newspaper people and we left GENOA with many people singing our praises.

Today, we celebrated the Fourth of July, assisted by Dr. Settles and his Wings Over Jordan Choir. They made a great hit and are wonderful singers; the day was a great success.

We have a fine camp here at VIAREGGIO, scattered through the woods, where you once saw us in training, and the men are in fine spirits.

I hope to run across you again when I return to the States, and again I express appreciation for your fine letter.

Sincerely yours,

E. M. Almond

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